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HEALTH & BEAUTY

Tips and treatments to help you look good and feel even better – See inside



VAT CHANGE THREATENS CHURCHES

MORE churches will face a fight for survival if a Government scheme to help with restoration costs is scrapped.

The Listed Places of Worship grant, which allows historic churches and Canterbury Cathedral to claim back 17.5 per cent VAT on renovation work, is due to expire in March, 2011.

But the Church of England has said there is a danger the legislation will not be renewed and is gearing up to campaign for the rebate to continue.

The Rev Jean Burrows is the rector

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

of three churches: St Michael's, Hernhill; and St Barnabas's, and St Peter and St Paul, in Boughton-under-Blean.

She said: "The impact could be drastic. So much of our time and effort is put into the building and because most of my churches are Grade I listed we have to do things properly, but it is more expensive.

"A lot of money that comes in to the churches is for the buildings, so anything that helps is good.

"Because they are historic buildings

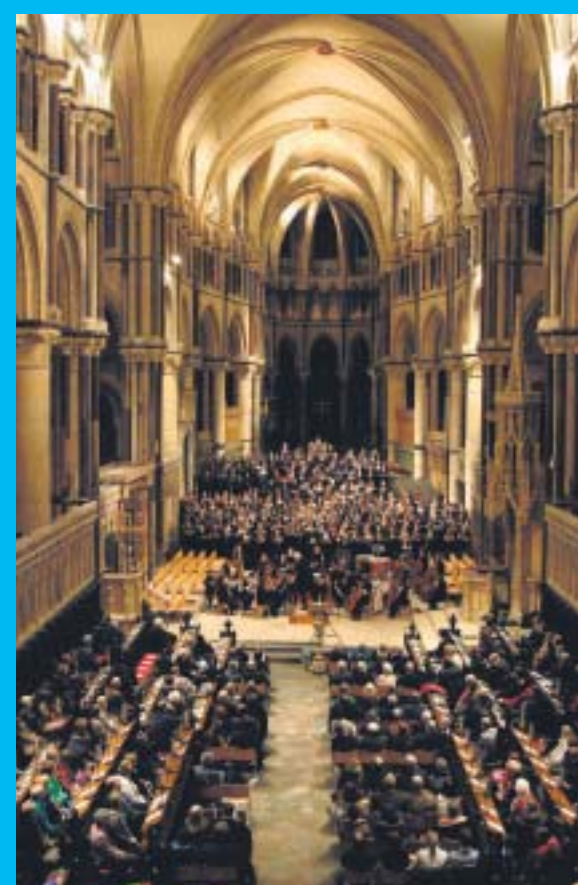
the villages would really miss them, but often it is churchgoers who are the ones faced with the bills.

"We have been raising £90,000 for one of my churches for conservation work which has to start in June, so any money that comes back through VAT is important. If we couldn't claim back the VAT we would have to raise at least another £15,000.

"If the Government wants us to keep these buildings it has to help more. If you don't do the restoration, things get worse and worse."

Since 2001 churches and cathedrals have been able to claim back more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



ECHOING BACK TO ITS ROOTS

Canterbury Cathedral hosted more than 350 singers from 12 universities and colleges as the Church Universities and Colleges Choirs Festival returned to its roots. The event, a celebration of shared history and choral music, was founded by Professor Grenville Hancox, director of music at Canterbury Christ Church University, in 1988.

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ALSO INSIDE

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SPORTPAGES 54-55



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INSIDE THIS WEEK

NEWS..... PAGES 2-11 **PROPERTY**... PAGES 39-48
Q&A PAGE 8 **JOBS**..... PAGES 49-52
SCHOOLS PAGE 12 **CLASSIFIED**..... PAGE 53
LETTERS..... PAGE 15 **SPORT** PAGES 54-55

INSIDE your lifestyle



PAGE 22 **CINEMA/TV**
 PAGES 25-27 **LEISURE**
 PAGE 28 **TIMEOUT**
 PAGE 29 **STYLE**
 PAGE 30 **WEATHER**
 PAGE 31 **COMPETITION**
 PAGES 23-25 **MUSIC/TRAVEL**
 PAGE 33 **MOTORING**

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4,000 homes inevitable, says council leader

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

THE council has 'no choice' about the building of thousands of houses in south Canterbury, according to a letter written by leader John Gilbey.

In a letter replying to concerns raised by Trisha Cheeseworth, of New House Lane, Councillor Gilbey said: "Anyone who tells you we have a choice in this, at least while the current government is in power, is simply not telling the truth."

The council leader wrote the letter on March 5, while the public consultation was still open on where 4,000 government-required homes should be built.

Mr Gilbey has since said: "What we don't have a choice in is the number of houses – we have every choice in where they go. No one has said yet exactly where they are going, because we have not done that exercise."

"At the moment we do not feel we have anywhere to put the houses other than south Canterbury, but if anyone can come up with a sensible idea of where 1,500 to 2,500 houses could go that would be fine."

"But I don't know of anywhere else where there is sufficient space. There don't appear to be any sites big enough, unfortunately."

"If someone could come up with somewhere else, I would be very happy about it."

But locals are so concerned about the plans that they have formed a super-group of residents' associations called the Hilltop, Iffin, Merton and New House Lane Action Group, and more areas are set to join soon.

Mum-to-be Melissa Dachtler from New House Lane, who also has a young daughter, said: "Local people really care about their community and really care about the way they live. People still walk down to the farms to go and collect their eggs."

"We moved from a big estate in Gravesend that had lots of crime.



OBJECTIONS: A poster opposing the plans

We decided we would rather commute and bring up our family in a nice area breathing fresh air, being happy."

"My husband and I are really upset that this can just go ahead on this scale. Our children would be growing up on a building site for 15 years."

Her main concerns are that the housing would be out of proportion to the rural character of the area, there will be air and noise pollution and traffic chaos and it will take prime agricultural land out of use.

Building noise and disruption is also a concern to many locally.

Both Guy Voizey, the Liberal Democrat parliamentary candidate for the area, and Julian Brazier, the incumbent Conservative MP, have said they oppose the building scheme, although Mr Brazier has said the situation is difficult.

He said: "The government is forcing huge numbers of houses on Kent and the council is put in the invidious position of having to put them somewhere."

Jean Samuel, Labour parliamentary candidate for the district, said: "Using the proposed greenfield site in South Canterbury for 2,000 house build is not the way forward."

Mrs Samuel has suggested building fewer houses south of Canterbury and instead using the Hersden site and brownfield sites in Herne Bay and Whitstable.

Action group formed against homes plan

A PROTEST group set up to combat the threat of thousands of new houses south of Canterbury has got off to a strong start.

The Hilltop, Iffin, Merton and New House Lane's Action Group – HIMN for short – had a packed inaugural meeting to set up the association.

Residents filled every seat at St Faith's Hall, New House Lane, last Wednesday, to adopt a constitution and elect a committee.

The group will work with other residents' associations and conservation organisations such as Protect Kent.

The association also decided to expand to include homeowners and tenants from Thanington Road and Wincheap.

Chairman of the new group, Professor Clive Church, said: "The council favours a giant development."

"This will blight the lives of thousands of people who will suffer even more traffic noise and pollution and all of Canterbury will have permanent gridlock."

"All this adds up to a health and economic disaster for the city."

VAT campaign launched to save churches

FROM FRONT PAGE

than £100 million of VAT spent on renovation work. Julian Hills is the Diocesan secretary – effectively the CEO of the Church in Kent.

He said: "The Listed Places of Worship Grant has brought a huge amount of respite from VAT on repair and maintenance bills for many listed churches."

"Abolishing the scheme would mean an additional 17.5 per cent on all church repair works, and in this economic climate most churches would struggle to meet this burden."

"Churches will not be able to afford essential work on these beautiful buildings."

And losing the scheme could have an impact on tourism, too.

A Canterbury Cathedral official said: "We urge the Government to carry on with this funding. Cathedrals are one of the biggest draws for tourists, both domestic and from overseas."

"Anything that can help small congregations keep these buildings in good repair will aid tourism and the local economy."

The Church of England is asking people to write to MPs and parliamentary candidates before the general election and ask for the scheme to continue.

Future of town goes on display

TO find out more about how Herne Bay will be regenerated, go along to an exhibition in the King's Hall next Wednesday.

It is intended to give people an opportunity to see how the big projects have been progressing over the last year.

These include moving the sports centre from the pier to Herne Bay High School, redeveloping the town centre, extending the Herons Leisure Centre and the Memorial Park.

Each of the projects will have its

own stand with city councillors and council officers there to answer questions and give information.

More community projects are planned so locals will also get a chance to see how they will be affected and find out how to get involved. There will also be stands from some of Herne Bay's most prominent businesses.

Councillor Peter Lee, executive member for Herne Bay regeneration, said: "A number of major projects are making good progress in Herne Bay

at the moment, so now is the right time to update local people on where we have got to and what happens next."

"Previous events like this have been popular so we are hoping for a big turnout."

The exhibition from 3-7pm on Wednesday, is free and open to all.

For more information about the event or Herne Bay's regeneration go to www.canterbury.gov.uk/hernebay projects or call regeneration manager Patrick Rynne on 01227 862329.

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Sports club expansion opposed by neighbours

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

NEIGHBOURS of Polo Farm sports club have united to fight what has become a hugely controversial plan to expand facilities on the site.

More than 430 people have written either supporting or objecting to Polo Farm's application to build a new clubhouse, two floodlit hockey pitches, a practice hockey pitch, an indoor sports hall, a cricket pavilion, three tennis courts and grandstands.

If successful there will also be a new building to house Christ Church University's leisure and tourism department.

Those living on nearby Littlebourne Road, Stodmarsh Road and Trenley Drive handed a petition with 316 signatories opposing the plan to Canterbury council's development control manager Luke Majer on Thursday, March 11.

Objector Adrian Watkinson said: "This has managed to incense and unite what has been a very loose and unstructured community.

"It has actually brought everybody together with the realisation that what the community needs to do is to speak with one voice."

Diana Beaupré, who lives on Trenley Drive, next to Polo Farm said: "If granted, this application will totally destroy the living standards of over 120 homes which border Polo Farm.

"It will see the destruction of a further 30 acres of local countryside and cause a further mushroom of light and noise pollution across the area."

Chairman of the Littlebourne and Stodmarsh



ONE VOICE: Objectors to Polo Farm's expansion plans have handed over a 316-signature petition to Canterbury council

Roads Community Association John Foster is also against further expansion of the site.

He said that, if allowed, the site would have the same footprint as 10,000 London buses and would be three times the size of the football hub which could be built on Ridlands Farm, south of Canterbury.

Mr Foster said: "We are in a pretty rural place. On three sides of this site is not only ancient woodland but also an area of special scientific interest. It is inappropriate to have something of this nature stuck in the middle of

the countryside, two miles outside Canterbury. We have something here already, but we are saying 'No more'.

But some people support the scheme, including Mia Kennedy from All Saints' Lane.

She said: "I offer my support for the above application. It is important everyone has access to good sports facilities and it would be wonderful to extend what is already a very successful sports venue."

Representatives of Polo Farm were unavailable for comment.

Mugged on Mother's Day at Mum's grave

TWO muggers robbed a woman visiting her mum's grave on Mothering Sunday. The 47-year-old woman was in the Canterbury Cemetery at 3pm at a grave near the back entrance.

A young man asked her for directions to town and, while she explained, a woman pushed over and the pair grabbed her coat containing her purse.

The man and a woman then ran away and, when the victim found her purse, the cash inside it had been taken.

The victim landed on her knee when she was pushed by the man and had to be taken to hospital for a check-up.

The male robber is between 20 and 25, 6ft tall and was wearing a black knitted woollen hat and dark clothing. He was also carrying a rucksack with a piece of wood sticking out of the top.

The female thief was between 18 and 20, wearing a white Adidas tracksuit and red and white trainers. She is slim with blonde hair in a ponytail.

Witnesses or anyone with information should contact DC Louise Hammond on 01227 868 285.

■ A BOMB scare saw Burgate in Canterbury cordoned off on Sunday afternoon after a suspect package was left at the cathedral shop.

Police were called at 1.40pm and staff left the shop, which was already closed to customers. They then closed the street between the junctions with Longmarket and the Buttermarket.

The package turned out to be a gift card making set and the street was re-opened by 2.30pm.

The 36-year-old man who had left the package was traced at 3.30pm and was taken to St Martin's mental health hospital by police.

Heroin haul the largest in years

A HEROIN stash captured in Canterbury is the biggest police have found in the area for several years.

The narcotics, worth £2,500, and more than £1,000 cash were found after police raided a flat in Pine Tree Avenue on Thursday, March 11 after neighbours complained of drug dealing, particularly in an alleyway off London Road.

A 20-year-old man from Margate and a 29-year-old woman from Canterbury were arrested on suspicion of supplying a controlled drug and have been released on bail until May 9.

Inspector Terry Chuter said: "This is one of the largest street level seizures of Class A drugs that we have seen for several years."

Prints lead cops to paint trail trio

FOOTPRINTS gave away three boys spotted jumping on paint cans and spilling it onto the street.

Police followed the cream and white trail to find the eight and nine year olds, who had been misbehaving in Forrester Close at 5.45pm on Sunday.

The youngsters and their parents had to go back to the mess to help clear it up.

Disrupted rail service debated in Commons

THE fight for a better train services has been taken to Westminster after commuters complained their needs are no longer being met.

Non-high speed rail services to London's Cannon Street station, a favourite for commuters because of its proximity to the city, have been cut since the new high speed line to St Pancras was introduced.

And services from Whitstable and Herne Bay to Cannon Street take longer because they now stop at more stations such as Meopham.

But Southeastern, the train company which runs these lines, has nonetheless raised season ticket prices.

Herne Bay MP Roger Gale initiated a commons debate about the timetabling problems on March 10.

He said: "High fare-paying commuters have been subjected to delay and disruption as a result of the Department of Transport's imposition of a hybrid timetable upon a network and an infrastructure that has simply not been adequately adapted to accommodate it."

During the commons debate the MP said: "We would like to see - not in three years, not in three months, but immediately - a cut in fares to reflect the poor standard of service.

"We would also like to see a return to the sensible timetabling of trains and an apology for the manner in which the Department for Transport and Southeastern trains have to date failed the high fare-paying travelling public of east Kent."

Canterbury and Whitstable MP Julian Brazier, the shadow transport minister, has also said train arrangements since the high speed service was introduced leave much to be desired.

After the debate he said: "I receive emails and letters from constituents who are angry about the new timetable and deterioration of service. Poor connections are preventing people getting to and from work."

A spokesman for Southeastern said: "We have been continually reviewing the timetable and May will be the first opportunity to make minor changes to areas such as the length of trains and connection times at stations, to help improve the punctuality of the services."

"Any other changes, such as the suggested introduction of new services to the Herne Bay area, would require a change to the timetable service specification, which is the responsibility of the Department for Transport."

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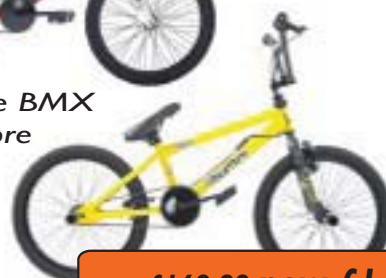
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GUERRILLA GARDENING: The neglected area next to St George's Roundabout is showing its first new shoots

Gardeners plot a new look for disused spaces

GUERRILLA gardeners are quietly doing their best to transform Canterbury's forgotten corners into places of beauty.

These dedicated volunteers are not young firebrand revolutionaries but three respectable, middle-aged ladies in the gardening sub-committee of the Oaten Hill and District Society.

Their current project is the neglected piece of land between the Odeon cinema and St George's roundabout which a recent council report noted as "an area of particular concern".

Sophie Scott, head gardener, said: "We very much want to improve the area that has been a bomb site since the Baedeker raids in 1942. "Every time single time I walk into town I go past that area and I can't bear it really. It is so sad because it looks so awful.

"It is our city. We may not have a legal entitlement to the streets but it is our city and our home and we have to look after it."

But instead of complaining about the land the concerned citizens have been talking to the council, contractors, local businesses and landowners about making the patch of grass and trees into something to be proud of.

They have convinced Serco to replace cracked, flaking concrete planters with new ones made from railway sleepers which will also serve as benches.

The council will supply a bin and the Odeon cinema group, who partly owns the land, has been press-ganged into meeting with the indomitable gardeners to find out how they can help.

EXCLUSIVE

BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

Guerrilla gardener Gillian Northcott Liles said: "It is amazing and it is unfortunate that such a prominent piece of land is in such a state, and I don't think the Odeon cinema would disagree with that. They are now very keen to work with us.

"It is all about trying to collaborate and bring people together. We get out there and do things and spend money. We are not a big organisation but we can spur other people into doing something."

And of course the ladies are not afraid to get their green fingers dirty.

Mrs Scott said: "Over the past three years I have planted the planters with bulbs and evergreens and weeded them, although not with any massive success because I broke my wrist last year.

"People mostly have been amazingly supportive.

"When I first kept saying I wanted to do something about the planters people all said they would be vandalised, but the worst that is happened is that a couple of years ago a couple of daffodil heads were blown off and last summer sat on a begonia.

"It is jolly lovely and I know local people would like to see something happen there because if I am out there with a pair of secateurs or weeding it is amazing the amount of people that come past and say how wonderful."

yourcanterbury

NEWS IN BRIEF

A run for hearing hounds

AN ear specialist is set to further help his patients by running a marathon to raise money for hearing dogs for the deaf.

Hadrian Harris, a hearing aid audiologist at Specsavers Hearcare in Canterbury, is running his first marathon for charity Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

He said: "I first heard of the work of the charity at work as my employer supports them.

"Last year I was privileged to meet Maggie Lee, who lives with her hearing dog Clay in Herne Bay, and who does sterling voluntary work for the Friends of the Marlowe Theatre.

"I realise the sense of isolation and frustration losing your hearing can cause and feel hearing dogs do a wonderful job improving the quality of life of those suffering from severe hearing loss."

Hearing dogs help by becoming a deaf person's ears, alerting them to everyday sounds such as doorbells and more serious alarms.

To sponsor Hadrian to run the Brighton marathon go to www.justgiving.com/Hadrian-Harris or pick up a sponsorship form from Specsavers Hearcare, 7 Rose Street, Canterbury.

Have a say on conservation

NOW is your chance to comment on changes to conservation areas in the city of Canterbury.

The council has been reviewing 13 of the settlement's preservation regions. Part of the process has involved giving an overview of the history and development of the city and its suburbs and defining what makes them special.

The boundary of each conservation area has also been considered, but no major changes have been proposed.

View the reports at www.canterbury.gov.uk/cpnervationappraisals, Canterbury library or the council offices on Military Road.

For hard copies call 01227 862 191 or email conservation@canterbury.gov.uk. The council must receive comments by April 30.

Club's orate expectations

A PUBLIC speaking club is to hold its annual oratory contest next Tuesday.

The Canterbury Communicators will be competing to go on to attempt the East Kent area public speaking challenge, various competitions in the UK and Ireland, and ultimately international finals in America.

The competition will be held at the Manor Barn on Cockerling Road. Members of the public are welcome to join the audience free of charge. Tea and coffee is available from 7pm and the contest will start at 7.30pm.



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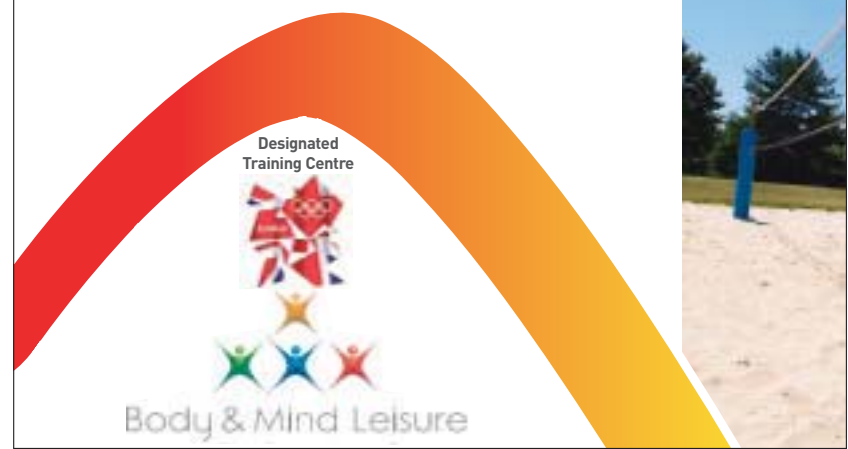
A rip-snoring production

AN AMATEUR theatre group are getting dressed up in their gowns, slippers and nightwear for their new production being held this week.

Canterbury Operatic Society's latest foot-tapping musical The Pajama Game is based on the hit Broadway show and Doris Day film of the same name.

Set in 1950s America, workers at the Sleepitite Pajama factory are demanding a wage rise of seven-and-a-half cents a week and features well-known numbers such as Hey There, Small Talk, Steam Heat and Hernando's Hideaway.

The Pajama Game runs at The Gulbenkian Theatre all week until Saturday, when there's also a matinee the same day. Tickets are from £10 with a 2-for-1 offer for students tonight (Wednesday) and can be booked on 01227 769075 or online at www.thegulbenkian.co.uk.



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Cyclists aim to raise cash for theatre project

AN ambitious Marlowe-related bike ride has been organised to raise money for Canterbury's new theatre.

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

Cyclists are being given the opportunity to cycle the 65 miles between the Ahoy Centre in Deptford, East London, close to where the playwright is buried, and the West Gate Towers in Canterbury where Marlowe grew up.

The idea of the Miles for Marlowe event is to forge a link between the 16th century writer and the new Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury.

During the route cyclists will be able to enjoy the scenic Kentish countryside along Watling Street during May.

The Friends of the Marlowe Action Group came up with the idea to raise funds for the theatre, which is due to open in the autumn of 2011.

Kerry Dunlop, who organised the ride, said: "I wanted to do something to raise money for the Marlowe theatre, which is a wonderful project.

"With this ride we can forge this link with the past and present, and the future.

"This should be a lot of fun for everybody. I am sure we all want to get into the countryside after such a long, hard winter."

The ride will take place on May 16 and will begin between 8.30am and 10am.

Mr Dunlop said: "This is the ideal time to start training. Anyone who can ride 15 miles now should be able to cover 65 miles comfortably by mid-May."

The ride is open to all and costs £10 to enter. Entry forms can be downloaded from www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk

So far fundraisers have managed to get £2 million of the £2.5 million which needs to be raised for the new theatre. The whole project will cost £25.7 million.

Donations have been secured from charitable trusts and foundations as well as from generous individuals.

Currently at the Marlowe Theatre site the steel frame is going up and the new building is finally taking shape.

Next developers will be putting in a pre-cast



JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME: The cyclists plan to ride from Christopher Marlowe's burial place to his childhood home

floor, metal decking and roofing. This work is likely to continue until April. Over the summer internal walls will start being put in and the building will start to look like the finished product.

Developers and the council have said the project remains on time and to budget.

Appeal after crash

A SMASH outside Wingham Bird Park has left police appealing for witnesses.

The crash happened when a car driving towards Sandwich on the A257 at 5.45pm on Tuesday, March 9 overtook a number of other moving vehicles.

A car going in the opposite direction had to brake to avoid a head-on collision, but was hit by the car behind. No one was injured.

The driver who overtook the line of traffic did not stop. Police would like anyone in any of the other vehicles who saw what happened to call PC Ian Crouch on 01622 690 690.

Flats 'a death trap'

A COUNCIL tower block in Herne Bay was a "death trap" according to a chartered surveyor.

Elizabeth Court in Herne Bay, broke fire safety laws. Smoke could have blocked emergency exits and there were not enough fire escape signs.

News agencies reported building inspector Arnold Tarling as saying the building is "a death trap waiting to happen".

Canterbury council has said work to make the building safe will be complete by the end of the month.

Driver's finger freed

FIREMEN had to rescue a woman who got her finger stuck in the boot of her car in Ravensbourne Avenue in Herne last Tuesday morning.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

ALICE MARTIN



Q Tell me something about yourself

A I'm originally from Broadstairs, now living in Canterbury and a graduate of the University of Kent. I've always had a passion for singing and acting.

I've appeared in more than a dozen shows including at the Marlowe and Gulbenkian theatres. During the day I work as a teaching assistant and divide my free time between the gym, show rehearsals and singing lessons.

Q How did you first get involved in acting and singing?

A I come from a musical background. My Dad's a singer and plays the piano and my uncle plays cello in the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Many others of my family are involved in either music or performance.

I learned to play the violin at the age of seven, followed by the saxophone and also went to dance classes, but I became more interested in singing at secondary school.

I joined both Ramsgate and Canterbury Operatic Societies at 17 and auditioned for the part of Hodel in Fiddler On The Roof at the Marlowe. I also later joined Herne Bay Operatic Society.

Q What shows have you done in the past?

A Besides Fiddler On The Roof I've had leading roles in The Mikado, The Pirates of

Penzance, Barnum, Annie Get Your Gun and Titanic The Musical.

I've also appeared in Fame, Me and My Girl and The Hot Mikado, together with compilation shows of the music of Gershwin and Rodgers and Hammerstein.

Q What would you say has been your favourite role to date?

A It would have to be when I played a third-class Irish passenger, Kate McGowan, in Titanic The Musical. The show was held in November 2008 and was one of the last to be staged at the old Marlowe before the redevelopment began.

Everything about it was different to what I'd done before. There was a large cast with elaborate sets and costumes. We were conscious of recreating something which was based on a real-life human tragedy and our style and approach had to be sensitive towards that. The music was very inspiring.

Q Tell us about your latest show, The Pajama Game

A It's a love story set in 1950s America, where employees at the Sleepite Pajama factory are demanding a wage rise. The songs are incredibly catchy including well-known numbers such as Hey There, Small Talk, Steam Heat and Hernando's Hideaway.

Doris Day starred in the original film version and more recently it has been revived on

Broadway. I play the cameo role of Poopsie, a factory girl and a union activist.

Q What advice would you say to those who would like to be pursue a career in acting or singing?

A Get involved with local theatre companies and be proactive. Some people overlook this, but it's important to get experience wherever you can.

Q What is it you hope to achieve in future?

A I'm taking regular singing lessons and hope to record an album featuring a mix of contemporary and jazz songs this summer. I'm also looking out for roles.

Q What's the best way to prepare before you take to the stage?

A I recommend sucking on half a lemon before going on stage because it helps to clear the throat, but the most important thing is a vocal warm-up and breathing exercises.

Q How can people find out more about the show and book tickets?

A The Pajama Game is on at the Gulbenkian Theatre all this week with the last performance on Saturday evening, when there's also a matinee on the same day. Tickets are from £10 and can be booked on 01227 769075 or online at www.thegulbenkian.co.uk.

Q&A

The aspiring actress and singer spoke to **James Alexandre** about her role in Canterbury Operatics' latest production at the Gulbenkian, how she first became involved in the theatre and her plans for the future

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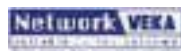
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FUNDRAISERS: The Red Wheelies

Group are wheelie ready for challenge

A MOBILITY scooter formation display team is to raise money for charity by completing the 150 mile North Downs Walk in their buggies.

The Red Wheelies are all multiple sclerosis sufferers, yet last year overcame their limitations by traveling the 84 mile length of Hadrian's Wall for charity.

But this year they are to face their biggest challenge ever to raise funds for the Kent Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre in Canterbury.

And they now have the go-ahead thanks to a £5,000 award to cover the costs of the trip from Grassroots Grants, administered by the Kent Community Foundation.

Jackie Weeden, Red Wheelies team leader, said: "We have been planning the next venture for a while but were unsure if costs were going to be covered.

"Now we have funding it is great we are able to go ahead all cylinders firing and raise as much money as possible for the therapy centre.

"We are thankful for all the support we continue to receive and just want to prove multiple sclerosis does not have to mean you cannot achieve great things."

The ladies will be using Quingo mobility scooters to travel the 150 miles from Winchester to Canterbury via Guildford, Dorking and Rochester.

Cancer mum's message to help save lives

A CANCER victim who mistook her symptoms for the menopause is urging other women to ensure they are not putting themselves at risk.

Dianna Fry, 58, from Canterbury, had a hysterectomy and six cycles of chemotherapy after being diagnosed with the ovarian form of the killer disease.

However, the mum-of-three admits she was lucky to survive after ignoring the initial symptoms.

She said: "I remember feeling really bloated and suffering from severe bouts of abdominal pain.

"I was falling asleep in my singing class and feeling full after just one mouthful of food, but I really thought it was just that time of life.

"It is probably thanks to my cousin - who had cancer of the colon and had been urging me to have a colonoscopy - and a very young registrar that I am here now."

Mrs Fry eventually discovered she had two small masses on her left ovary, and in June 2007 she underwent an operation to have her

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

womb and ovaries removed.

Three weeks later doctors broke the news that tests on the masses had shown they were cancerous, and Mrs Fry was started on a six-cycle course of chemotherapy. She is now in remission.

Mrs Fry said: "As with all cancer survivors I am very aware that my time is possibly shorter than most people, but I have come to realise how fortunate I am to have such wonderful support and treatment.

"I really would urge all women to keep a diary of their symptoms, and if they spot the common ones to go straight to their GP."

Ovarian cancer is the fifth most common cancer in women in the UK, affecting about 6,600 people every year.

This month is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Andrew Scott-Clark, deputy director of public health for NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, said: "The good news is that if detected in its



LUCKY: Dianna Fry was diagnosed with ovarian cancer after initially mistaking the symptoms for the menopause

early stages, women have a 90 per cent chance of surviving.

"The common symptoms are persistent stomach pain, increased abdominal size and persistent bloating."



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RIGHT CONNECTION: Good broadband speeds are essential, not a luxury, for businesses in rural areas

Rural firms will need cut of the broadband cash

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

BUSINESSES based in rural areas must get help to improve internet connection speeds or face losing out to foreign competition.

Rural campaigners warned living standards will fall unless they are awarded a slice of £1 billion funding for broadband internet.

Andrew Bowles, chairman of the Rural Forum for the South East, said about half of all small and medium-sized businesses in the region are based in rural areas, but often suffer from slow broadband connections or none at all.

The UK is ranked a lowly 31 out of 66 European countries in terms of internet speed. So, the Government is setting up the Next Generation Access Fund to improve connections.

Mr Bowles said: "It's embarrassing and disastrous that the UK is so far down the league table and there are big implications for the British economy and jobs."

"It's becoming very difficult to run small businesses in rural areas without faster internet speeds and is forcing people to open new offices in towns, increasing their carbon footprint because they are driving further than they normally would."

"It's also having a knock-on effect on the rural communities, where before businesses would use the local post office or perhaps take clients out to lunch at the village pub."

"There's even a report that says the GCSE results of children who live in areas with inadequate internet access are 25 per cent lower, on average."

According to research by the Commission for Rural Communities, more than a quarter of people who live outside towns and cities do not have basic broadband, or can only get it at slow speeds.

Majority

Last week Virgin announced it will begin to roll out its new super-fast 100mb broadband service across the UK from the end of this year, after testing speeds of double that figure in Ashford.

Roger House, chairman of the Kent and Medway branch of the Federation of Small Businesses, agreed that for the majority of its 6,500 members, fast internet was essential.

He said: "Broadband is not an added luxury to today's small businesses but an essential service similar to utilities such as gas and electricity."

Last week the Government announced the formation of the Broadband Delivery UK body, which will be responsible for spending the £1bn fund to deliver faster internet speeds to 90 per cent of the country by 2017.

'Too early' to judge success of high-speed line, says minister

RAILWAYS minister Chris Mole says it is too early to judge the benefits of the new high-speed train service in Kent.

A new timetable launched to coincide with the start of High Speed 1 in early December has been heavily criticised by commuters, who say the level of service on mainline trains is now worse than ever despite the promise of more choice and less overcrowding.

Many claim the Southeastern schedule has instead led to longer journey times to London, a reduction in trains to Victoria and Cannon Street, and more delays and cancellations.

However, Mr Mole told MPs at Westminster Hall last Wednesday that it can take "some

years" for a new market to reach its full potential.

He added: "That is not meant to imply the service is not being monitored rigorously, but it does mean that snap judgements will not be made about the success of the new services."

"Inevitably there have been changes to the timetable affecting other services but it is early days to judge the final pattern of usage and satisfaction in Kent."

Mr Mole made his point at an adjournment debate secured by North Thanet Tory MP Roger Gale, who is supporting two petitions against the new schedule signed by more than 1,000 commuters.

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'Don't miss swine flu vaccinations'

PREGNANT women and others eligible for the swine flu vaccine are being warned of the dangers of turning down the jab.

Since the beginning of the outbreak in April, last year, there have been 22 confirmed swine flu-related deaths in the South East and 1,529 hospital admissions.

But despite the number of cases dropping steadily across the UK, the NHS in Kent says people in the at-risk groups should not assume they are no longer in the line of fire.

Catherine Plowright – the county's acting critical care network manager – said:

"Having worked for years in intensive care I am used to working with very sick people."

"What has struck me as different with people suffering from swine flu is the length of time people are taking to improve and move out of intensive care."

The swine flu vaccination programme began last October, with the jab being given to those at greatest risk first.

Anybody in the at-risk groups who has not yet been vaccinated should contact their local GP for more information on when the vaccination clinics are.

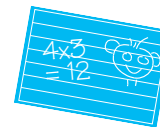
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BREAK TIME

Japanese visitors share their culture

JAPANESE student teachers have visited a school in Canterbury to observe lessons in exchange for an afternoon of Japanese culture.

The Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School hosted the visitors last week.

Head of modern languages, David Stalley, said: "The student teachers are attending a short vacation course at Chaucer College and wanted to see our outstanding teaching. We are gaining fame as a training school."

The Japanese student teachers spent the morning observing lessons and taught Langton girls beginners' Japanese, origami and calligraphy during the afternoon.

National success for university students

ENTERPRISE and law students from Canterbury have both got through to finals of national competitions.

Second year jurisprudence undergraduates from Christ Church University have won a place in the finals of the Negotiation Competition of England and Wales which will take place in London on Saturday, March 27.

Enterprise students from the university have made it through to the finals of the IBM University Business Challenge.

Undergraduates have seen off 260 teams to make it into the top 10 and will compete for the top spot at the IBM headquarters in London on March 19.

Academy's record intake a cause for celebration

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

THE Spires Academy in Sturry is celebrating a record number of student applications this year.

Usually running with spare capacity, this year 118 places of the 120 available for Year 7 entrants in 2010 have been filled.

When the school first opened in 2007 it had 292 students, but this year there will be 460, an increase of 58 per cent.

Janette Kitchenham, who supports new students, said: "The fact that we have a record number of parents putting Spires Academy as their first choice of secondary school for their children is fantastic news."

Supportive

"Parents and students are recognising our strengths and have chosen us as the right school for them."

"With our individual approach and specialisms we are a unique academy where students can flourish in the supportive environment that we offer."

The academy's leader, Helen Foster, said: "I am absolutely thrilled with the figures out this week for our Year 7 choices."

"It is great to hear our local families have trusted Spires Academy and know it is the right choice for their child."

"I believe passionately in providing a 21st century education for a 21st century child."

"Our recent successes have proven that Spires students are leading the way in championing our approach to learning."



INDIVIDUAL APPROACH: Janette Kitchenham with some of the pupils at the Spires Academy in Sturry

A Spires Academy spokesman has said it is one of the best schools in the Canterbury district for value-added results.

She said: "The attainments of students entering the academy in Year 7 are taken as baseline and their expected GCSE results pre-

dicted. Students are regularly exceeding their predicted levels, which is a measure of how much value the academy is adding."

"Our score on this measure put the Spires Academy in the top three per cent across the country."

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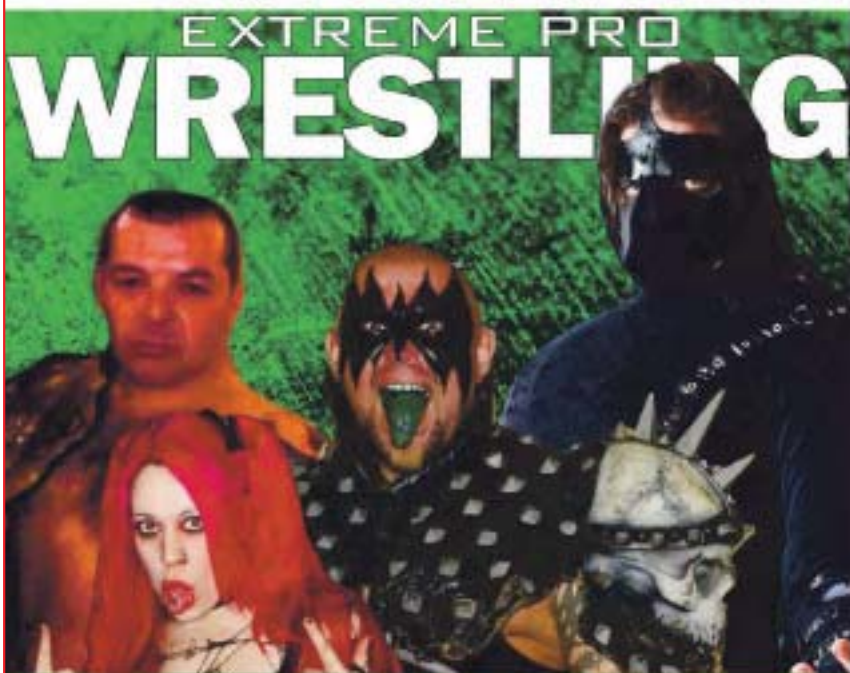
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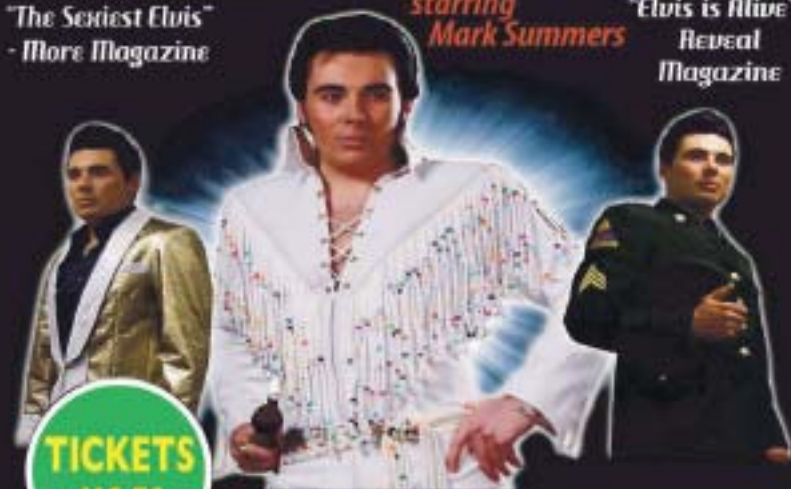
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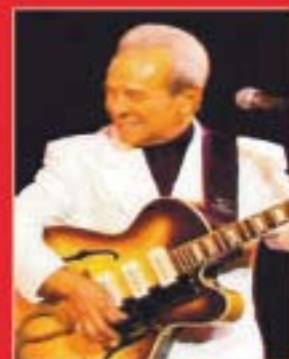
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YOUR LETTERS

Harlequin park and ride proposal in the council's core strategy. The planning policy team in March 12

Just I Educ. Hugh Common, Canterbury

Character reference for animal abuser?

I was most disappointed to hear that my MP Roger Gale, the elected representative for Herne Bay had provided the former Mayor of Margate, Ted Watt-Ruffell, a character reference for a recent court case.

This case in question was not reported much in the local Herne Bay press, it mainly concerned Thames, but I read the story on an

The council also issued a notice requiring for 15 months. Considering the charges, I must just ask, why did Mr Gale who stands himself on his animal rights I used to vote for Mr Gale, but I do not believe he displays good judgement. This is just further evidence of that.

Unfortunately the contents of Mr Gale's letter did not get reported, as an assumption it was not read out in court, but I would have been fascinated to learn what it contained. I hope Mr Gale will think long and hard before he lends his name to any character reference in future.

I also hope that Stacy Gale, Roger's wife, who also prides herself on her animal rights standpoints, will give her husband better advice from now on.

Purpose in future we should just vote for people who are not easily hypocrites.

Come May I'll be putting an 'X' in one of the other boxes.

Mr M Beatty Herne Bay

Writing a character reference for Gale

Mrs Beatty of Herne Bay should not be too critical of MP Roger Gale for providing a character reference for the former Mayor of Margate, Edwin Watt-Ruffell, who was up before the judge on an animal cruelty charge.

Loyalty to one's friends is an admirable trait, even if, as in Mr Gale's case it has left him open to ridicule due to the fact that throughout his parliamentary career he has been calling for harsher penalties for those convicted of animal cruelty, now it seems he is writing references for them.

Mr Gale also showed great loyalty to his colleagues Jonathon Aitken and Derek Conway, which it transpired proved to be misguided which does suggest that Mrs Beatty has a point in questioning his judgement.

What is not in doubt is that his constituents do not share his views as to the character of messrs Aitken, Conway and Watt-Ruffell.

Robert Muir

Way council wastes money leaves me cold

I have just had a delivery of recycling bags delivered from Canterbury council.

I stood and watched when they were delivering these bags to properties down my road.

They are too lazy to put them by your front door. From the pavement they throw them towards the doors, and if they happen to roll underneath a car parked on the drive, then that's where they stay. So the owner won't know they have had a delivery, until they use their car!

Also the new design leaves much to be desired. If you put something in them that happens to have a sharp corner, then you will have to use another one over it, using two bags as the quality is so inferior.

Reading in the paper some time ago that CCC intends to charge households £2 once they have used their quota, I can understand why the new ones are so inferior!

You will be using two bags instead of one every time you put sharp objects in them, therefore, you will have to purchase more.

Not only is the Council Tax going up well over the rate of inflation, but we are paying for CCC and

TALK TIME

HELEN PORTER

Helen Porter talks about her health and beauty clinic Evolution Skin Studios which has recently opened in Burgate, Canterbury



What services do you offer?

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KCC to go off on weekend breaks at our expense, spending thousands of pounds of our money in the process! It is disgusting.

I am a pensioner and registered disabled, my pension is £369 per month. I don't get any benefits of any sort. But what do they do for the pensioners. All they do is close various places saying they are short of funds. Invest our money here in the UK, not in Icelandic banks!

Name and address supplied

Speaking out over antisocial behaviour

Over 900 fighting/dangerous dogs were detained last year in London.

A case of a London teenager, brought down by a gang's attack dog before he was stabbed to death has been reported. Dogs are now commonly used as weapons and to intimidate. I believe old people in care homes need their pets – otherwise the downward spiral of unsuitable and inadequate public housing will continue unabated.

But there are all kinds of dogs and uncouth owners as I responded to the blog about dogs, which are becoming a nuisance to others as I find my drive and front garden can be used as a dog toilet. The last person I tackled who used to use my ivy as a urinating stop was too embarrassed to reply and has now moved, but others are just as bad.

My opinion is that Carter and Gilroy ought to have been removed and summarily dismissed for their lack of due diligence (£millions lost



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lodge? I know one old man who has a Gurkha family living with him. Their children call him grandad, he helps them with their English language and any bureaucratic problems. Why cannot we open our minds, hearts and homes? For me I could share my home. Living communally by choice in our own homes is not the worst option for any of us, especially compared to sheltered housing.

Rita Grootendorst



Taxpayers are on expensive route

Just to add a bit more to Roger Arnold's letter about the government, via the EU, spending millions of pounds on roads mainly in the old Soviet Bloc countries – we are also giving away another £1.5 million to help so-called road safety projects in Africa and Asia. These have already benefited from a £3.5 million funding from the Department for International Development, for such purposes.

So British drivers with ripped tyres, bent wheels and damaged

suspensions can carry on paying nearly a £1 billion per week in motoring taxes, while other countries can drive on first-class roads, courtesy of over-taxed British drivers!

Terry Hudson

Facts dispel myths over speed cameras

This year marks the end of the Government's current Road Safety Strategy, launched in 2000, which set out to cut the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road crashes by 40 per cent within 10 years.

The Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership, which is responsible for the operation of safety cameras within Kent and Medway, has surpassed that target, reducing KSIs by 63 per cent across all of our safety camera sites since the Partnership was formed in 2002.

Yet despite this achievement, there are still those who believe that safety cameras are a waste of money and, worse still, actually cause more crashes than they prevent.

This is, unfortunately, one of many myths that have grown up around safety cameras over the past few years, perpetuated by negative stories in the media.

The reality is since their introduction, safety cameras have consistently proved to be a successful method of reducing casualties on the roads. In Ashford, for example, the number of KSIs dropped by 40 per cent between 2006 and 2008 compared to the three years prior to cameras.

Critics of safety cameras have argued that they are dangerous because they encourage erratic braking and acceleration from drivers trying to avoid being 'caught', or that they distract drivers by making them constantly take their eyes off the road to check their speed.

I'd like to address both these points. Firstly, a major two-year Department for Transport study of safety cameras across six areas demonstrated that they do not increase crashes by leading to abrupt braking. Drivers are given ample warning that there's a safety camera ahead and the simple fact is that if they are already driving at the correct speed, they won't have any reason to suddenly brake when they approach a camera.

Secondly, it's not reasonable to claim drivers are forced to watch their speedometers rather than the road ahead. Competent drivers should be able to check and maintain their speed.

When drivers use rear and side view mirrors and check at junctions and roundabouts in order to give way. These all require drivers to concentrate on sections of the road other than those straight ahead and there is no evidence to suggest that such short and temporary diversions of concentration are a safety risk.

If you'd like to know more about what the Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership does visit our new-look website, www.kmscp.org.

Katherine Barrett, communications officer, Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership

Hospitals could face strike action

A UNION is threatening strike action by some staff at three of the county's main hospitals over pay rates and employment conditions.

Results of the consultative ballot at GMB union are expected in two weeks and means porters, cleaners and catering staff may stage a walk-out.

Hospitals that could be hit are the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, the Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital in Margate and the Kent and Canterbury Hospital in Canterbury.

If a strike is agreed, the union claims around 650 members of staff will not turn up for work and hospitals will be forced to close parts of their facilities.

Inconvenience

But a spokesman from the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust said the number of strikers would be lower, as many ancillary workers do not belong to the union.

"A strike may cause inconvenience to other staff, but it would have no affect on patients," he said.

The union is balloting over the 2006 Agenda for Change agreement, which looks to improve national pay rates and terms and conditions of employment, including holiday entitlement and unsocial hours pay.

But GMB's Mr Macklin said the union is unhappy with the savings targets and offer and has taken a consultative ballot of its members – mostly porter staff at Kent and Canterbury Hospital – to see if they want to strike.

He said: "The Trust was awarded Foundation status over a year ago, but has yet to implement the national agreement in full and to pay the back-pay."

Measures to stop vulnerable being victims

SOCIAL services chiefs say protection of vulnerable adults is a top priority.

The pledge comes in the wake of high-profile investigations into the deaths of mum Fiona Pilkington and vulnerable Manchester man David Askew.

Desperate Fiona, 38, killed herself and her disabled daughter Francesca Hardwick, 18, in Leicestershire in 2007 after authorities ignored her cries for help following years of abuse by a gang of thugs.

David, 64, who had a mental age of just ten, was "tormented to death" by youths. They harassed him for more than a decade.

Officials at Kent County Council – named as one of the top three local authorities in the country for its safeguarding procedures – are determined the same will never happen here.

A conference at Kent Police headquarters involving KCC, the NHS and a number of independent agencies, looked at a selection of programmes currently being undertaken to strengthen measures to protect vulnerable adults.

■ BY MARIJKE COX

Cllr Graham Gibbens, cabinet member for adult social care, said: "All councils in the UK were made to analyse what they were doing to ensure procedures where in place to tackle the issue."

"But we were already working on this. For KCC and Medway Council this has been a key priority for many years."

"Abuse can come in many different forms, for example financial – it doesn't necessarily have to be physical abuse. We're working hard to show that it is not tolerated here."

He added that where child abuse can often be detected by schools and health workers, for vulnerable adults it is not always so easy.

"Abuse is not just in a residential home or a day centre. It could be at work, college or at hospital – abuse can happen in any setting," he said.

Oliver Mills, managing director of adult social services and chairman of the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults Board for Kent and Medway, said raising awareness is key.



TRAGIC: Fiona Pilkington who killed herself and her daughter, inset, after years of abuse by gangs of teens

"Kent and Medway have had effective safeguarding in place for some time, but we must always continue to review this and see how we can improve," he said.

"We have a set of procedures in place and we work with different agencies, such as the police, the NHS and lots of independent organisations, to ensure vulnerable adults are protected."

"If we do learn that someone is being abused, for example financially or sexually, then an investigation is launched and this can sometimes lead to prosecution."

Mr Mills agreed with Cllr Gibbens that it is often harder to detect abuse with adults than children, but said a third of vulnerable people are receiving social care services – making it easier to identify.

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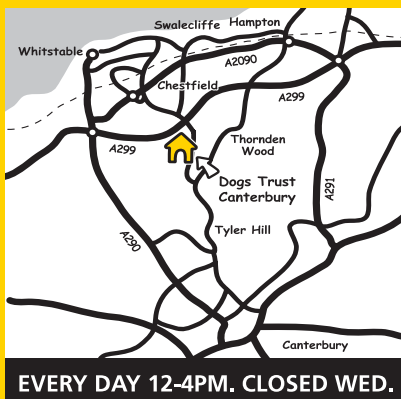
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Even if you don't like dogs, new legislation proposals to control owners should worry you

We should paw for thought over even more ridiculous laws

PLANS were announced last week for compulsory insurance of your dog in case it bites someone and, probably, micro-chipping.

That's about £600 a year under Government plans to review the Dangerous Dogs Act.

It comes hot on the heels of a proposal to charge £60 for a competence test before you can even own a dog anyway. And that is an excellent example of more useless state interference.

Do not let it go ahead – it won't change anything. The responsible remain responsible – the scumbags will always be scumbags.

It's simply a case of another state curtailment on our civil liberties for no good reason at all.

Once again we have a knee-jerk reaction by MPs – who I believe have too little to do of any consequence since Europe makes the big decisions – following an isolated incident involving a sink estate toerag and his devil dog.

Twenty years ago the poorly thought out Dangerous Dogs Act was rushed through in the same way. Like the Foxhunting Ban, if this

latest test over competence becomes law, who is going to ensure people obey it?

It may be an excuse I suppose for another round of made-up-jobs with councils (Dog Licence Enforcement Officers wanted, £25,000 a year, recruitment section, The Guardian), but surely it is time people made a stand.

Dogs are often unpredictable and there are undoubtedly some vicious mutts that should never be allowed out of a cage.

I do not own a dog nor do I have any wish to do so, however if you do, then that's fine by me.

I don't care whether it's for companionship or because a dog is the only thing that shows you love, or simply that you were conned by your kids and now you have to take it walking in the rain – if you want a dog, get on with it.

So long as you ensure it does not inconvenience me, then you, like everybody else, should be free to do as you wish. And that should apply to so many things in Britain: live and let live. But our freedoms are eroded at every turn.

I genuinely want our Government to ensure that enough time and money is spent minimising the risk of foreigners carrying out terrorist

atrocities in the name of their god. But there should be no place in this once genuinely free country of ours for busybodies and the self-righteous to impose their view of right and wrong to everyday life with stupid laws and regulations.

I write this a little smugly, since I warned dog owners a few years ago they were set to be the next social group to be picked on and marginalised after smokers had been crushed.

That's done now, so it's you dog owners.

The anger over dog fouling fills letters pages and see the response to this blog on our website... people don't care about being bitten, they just want to avoid dog poop on their trainers.

So, now the smoker has been all but eliminated from society, the politicians were on the look-out for minority targets they despise – and dog owners are on the list, alongside the overweight, as an easy group to be picked on and bullied.

So, even if you hate dogs, despise foxhunters, and shun smokers, do not think that if you let the latest ridiculous proposal become law that you are striking a blow for an improved quality of life for yourself. It's only a matter of time before a new law is aimed squarely at you.

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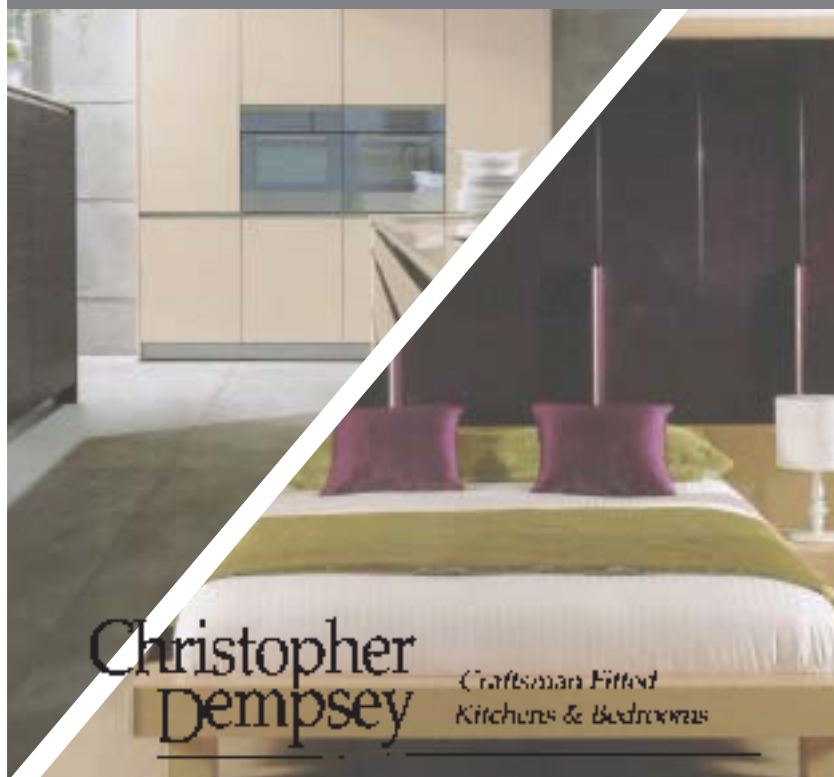
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Matt Damon on the trail of Weapons of Mass Destruction in new thriller

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LEISURE 25-27

STYLE 29

WEATHER 30

COMPETITION 31

MUSIC/GETAWAYS 32

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Jazz up your routine with dance

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BORED on the bike? Tired of the treadmill? It's time to put on your dancing shoes!

Active Life's fitness programme offers a range of dance classes for all ages and abilities, from children's street dance, salsa and flamenco-based zumba to fitness ballet and hip hop, there is something for everyone.

Active Life also boasts an exciting range of Les Mills-licensed Body Training Systems sessions. Classes are updated with new routines and music every three months, so you'll never get bored!

If you want to try something a bit different, Active Life offers Les Mills' original barbell class, Body Pump. This will challenge your major muscle groups with weight-room exercises like squats, presses, lifts and curls. The

fiercely energetic Body Combat, inspired by martial arts, draws from a wide range of disciplines such as karate, boxing, taekwondo, Tai Chi and Muay Thai.

Active Life's fitness programme also includes Body Jam classes – a fusion of the freshest dance moves and hottest new sounds.

Dancing is a unique form of exercise. It is great fun and gives your mind and body a fantastic workout. It provides you with the benefits of aerobic exercise while encouraging you to engage your brain.

For more information about activities available at Active Life, call 01227 769818 or log on to www.activelifeld.co.uk.

For more information about Change4Life: Let's Dance, log on to www.change4life.com/dance

For more information about Les Mills BTS fitness classes, please log on to www.lesmills.com



Top to toe treatments at new clinic

■ Evolution

DO you love the skin you're in? If not, a revolutionary skin clinic in the centre of Canterbury promises to send you out with the face – and body – you've always dreamed of.

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Founded by Helen Porter and John Davison, it offers clients everything from facial and skin care services to facelifts, 'boob jobs' and other cosmetic treatments.

The clinic, at 20 Burgate, also offers safe and hygienic tattooing and tattoo removal. Helen has gained international recognition for her techniques – which can also be used to apply semi-permanent make-up – and works on scar concealment and rebuilding patients' bodies

and confidence following major operations, such as mastectomies.

John Davison, an accredited plastic surgeon with more than 20 years' experience, specialises in breast enhancement and reduction, as well as nose and ear re-alignment, browlifts, tummy tucks and chemical peels.

If you're looking for a new image via less radical means, Evolution offers a range of de-stressing body wraps and scrubs, Swedish massage and reflexology starting from only £25, complementary therapies such as osteopathy, acupuncture and cranial massage and tinting, shaping, waxing and nailcare.

Evolution is open six days a week and by appointment on Sundays, with late nights on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Evolution Skin Studios, 20 Burgate, Canterbury CT1 2HG
www.evolutionskinstudios.com or telephone 01227 764633.



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Three hours after exercise, you should consume a regular meal containing protein to continue the muscle rebuilding process. Do not 'treat' yourself to sweets or alcohol as your muscles will be crying out for protein. Telephone: 01622 672200

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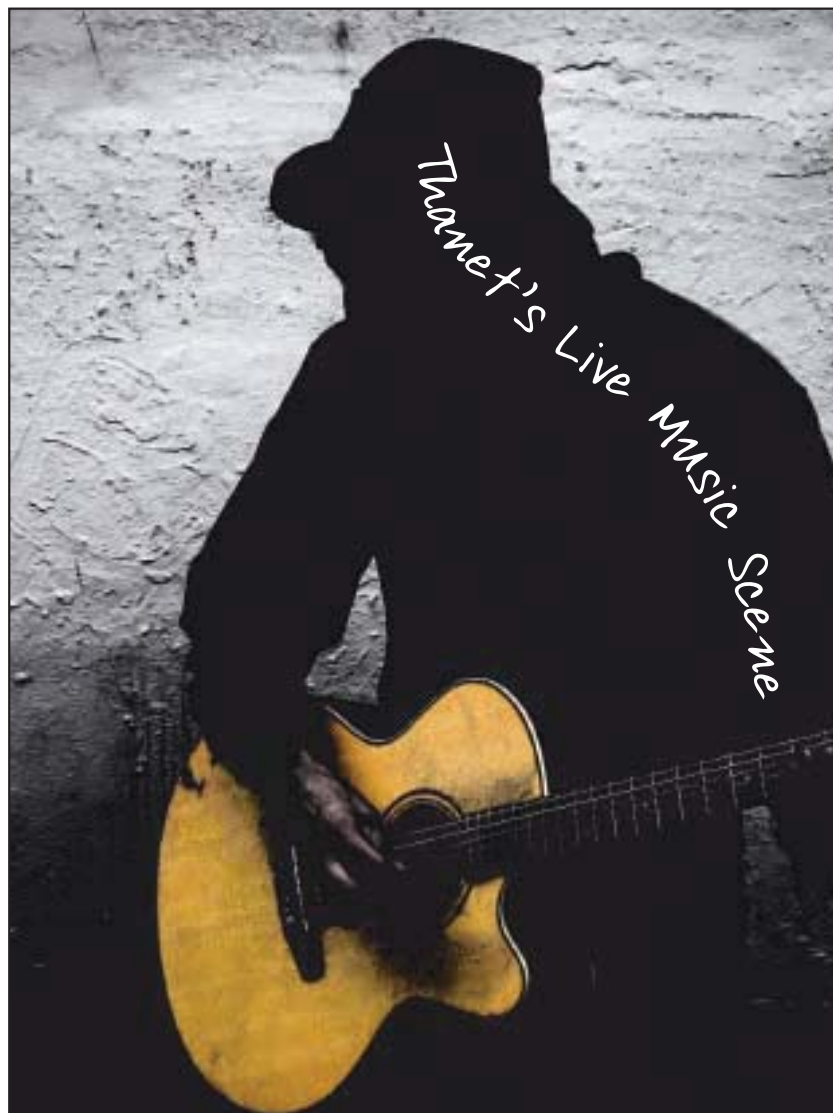
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Damon's latest action hero faces a crisis of conscience in Iraq

■ BY DAMON SMITH

WHEN American and British forces withdraw completely from Iraq – a military strategy which seems unthinkable seven years into the campaign – the lasting legacy won't be peace and democracy.

It will be a deep-rooted suspicion that the infamous weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), the supposed justification for the invasion, never existed.

The recent Iraq inquiry, chaired by Sir John Chilcot, provided no firm answers.

Award-winning British filmmaker Paul Greengrass and actor Matt Damon, the driving forces behind *The Bourne Supremacy* and *The Bourne Ultimatum*, offer one scenario in this riveting thriller set.

blitzkrieg

Based on the book *Imperial Life In The Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone* by journalist Rajiv Chandrasekaran, *Green Zone* is a breathless two hours of adrenaline-pumping action and political manoeuvring that places as much emphasis on emotionally-charged dialogue as the set pieces.

The film opens with a deafening bang on March 19, 2003 in Baghdad as Saddam Hussein's trusted general, Al Rawi (Naor), flees his headquarters in the midst of an Allied blitzkrieg.

Four weeks later, US Army warrant officer Roy Miller (Damon) and his team careen through the war-torn capital on the hunt for WMDs. Yet again, they draw a blank and Miller voices his frustrations, suspecting bogus intelligence.

A tip-off from a disgruntled local, Freddy (Abdalla), leads Miller and his crew to a meeting of Saddam's high-ranking advisors, including Al Rawi.

The general escapes, but another man is



PASSIONATE: Matt Damon as Roy Miller, a soldier with a conscience in *Green Zone*

apprehended and Miller uses Freddy as a translator to interrogate the suspect about a notebook in his possession.

"He says the book has names and locations of El Rawi's safe houses," reveals Freddy.

Returning to base, Miller bypasses scheming Pentagon official Clark Poundstone (Kinnear) and his minion Major Briggs (Isaacs), and delivers the book to local CIA chief Gordon Brown (Gleeson), who asks for discretion.

"I thought we were all on the same side," replies Miller. "Don't be naive," mocks Brown.

Green Zone is distinguished by Greengrass's tour-de-force direction, galloping through the streets of Baghdad with handheld cameras so we remain uncomfortably close to Miller as he risks his life for a country he was entrusted to tear apart.

There is no better director of action sequences and we really feel like we are ducking for cover from enemy fire as pyrotechnic mayhem erupts around the cast.

Damon delivers a passionate performance as a soldier with a conscience, who doesn't

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understand the full extent of the conspiracy.

Kinnear and Gleeson relish their roles as duplicitous political pawns, and Abdalla curries sympathy as the Iraqi interloper, enraged by the arrogance of his so-called American saviours.

"It's not for you to decide what happens here," Freddy tells Miller.

We are certain his words will fall on deaf ears, because the West knows best. Doesn't it?

GREEN ZONE 
Certificate 15



UNCOVERED: No surprises in Andrew Rawnsley's programme on Cameron



YOUR TV REVIEW

DISPATCHES – CAMERON UNCOVERED: Channel 4, Monday, March 8

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

POLITICAL journalist Andrew Rawnsley has been making waves in Westminster recently with his apparent outing of the Prime Minister as a bully.

No sooner had his latest 800-page tome been released than he was on every peak-time news and discussion programme debating the various claims and counterclaims made for and against his findings.

Therefore it seemed canny and timely that he was recruited by Channel 4's *Dispatches* team (or was it the other way round?) to front their programme on Britain's would-be leader, weeks before a General Election.

A nifty name such as *Cameron Uncovered* promised to give us a fresh insight into someone who we already see on our screens and read about every day of the week.

But what lured me in was the sight

of a Sunday newspaper headline which revealed the show's juiciest content.

Namely, that the Tory leader's wife Samantha may well have voted for Labour in the past and might not even place a tick next to her husband's own party come May.

In the end, the extraordinary claim by shadow arts spokesman Ed Vaizey passed by almost without notice.

What stuck in the mind was his awkward phrasing when referring to Cameron, saying: "Until you've got a chicken in place who understands the modernising agenda, you're not going to lay the modernising egg."

Rawnsley didn't challenge him on which came first, but more interviews followed with Chancellor-in-waiting

and long-time friend George Osborne, who dismissed comparisons of their relationship with the embittered one of Blair and Brown.

Several references were made to Cameron's own background in marketing and PR, although one of New Labour's own architects Peter Mandelson came out on the attack, bringing up the former's membership of the notorious Bullingdon Club.

Then the scene quickly cut to shadow education spokesman Michael Gove, who said Mandelson was a Communist Party member in his student days and had travelled to Cuba to hear Che Guevara speak.

All of which took place with Rawnsley in the hot seat, inviting audience members to draw their own conclusions and hoping his own contribution will bring itself to bear come polling day.

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Saturday 20th March at 7.30pm

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Sat 27th Mar 7.00pm & Sun 28th Mar at 2.30pm

THANET MUSIC & DRAMA FESTIVAL

Concert & Prize Givng. Finals & Awards Night
Friday 26th March at 7.00pm

Sandy Wilson's THE BOYFRIEND

Fri 2nd April at 7.30pm, Sat 3rd April at 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Sun 4th April at 2.30pm, Mon 5th April at 2.30pm & 7.00pm

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RANGER FOR THE DAY

A guided tour of site to meet all the cats, including Lions, Tigers, Snow Leopards, Cheetahs & Amur Leopards, an opportunity to help us clean and tend the cats, assist with the cat feeding and to get some really good photos as mementos of the day.



Wildlife Heritage Foundation
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Ashford TN27 8PJ
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Website: www.whf.org.uk
Registered Charity Number: 1104420

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CROSSKEYS COACHES

DAY TRIPS AND TOURS

March

Saturday 13th	De Panne	£19.50
Sunday 21st	Yesterdays World & Battle Abbey	£16.50
Wednesday 24th	Ideal Home Exhibition	£28.00
Thursday 25th	Boulogne	£24.00
Saturday 27th	Bruges	£32.00
Wednesday 31st	Kensington Palace	£25.00

April

Sunday 4th	Dickens World	£16.00
Sunday 4th	Chatham Dockyard	£16.00
Tuesday 6th	Montreuil	£26.00
Friday 9th	Tower of London	£29.00
Saturday 10th	Disneyland, Paris	£67.50
Monday 12th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£14.00
Thursday 15th	Druisillas Park	£26.00
Saturday 17th	Calais & Cite Europe	£19.00
Tuesday 20th	Montreuil	£26.00
Thursday 22nd	Boulogne	£24.00
Sunday 25th	London Eye, Carvery & Cruise	£59.00
Wednesday 28th	St Omer	£28.00

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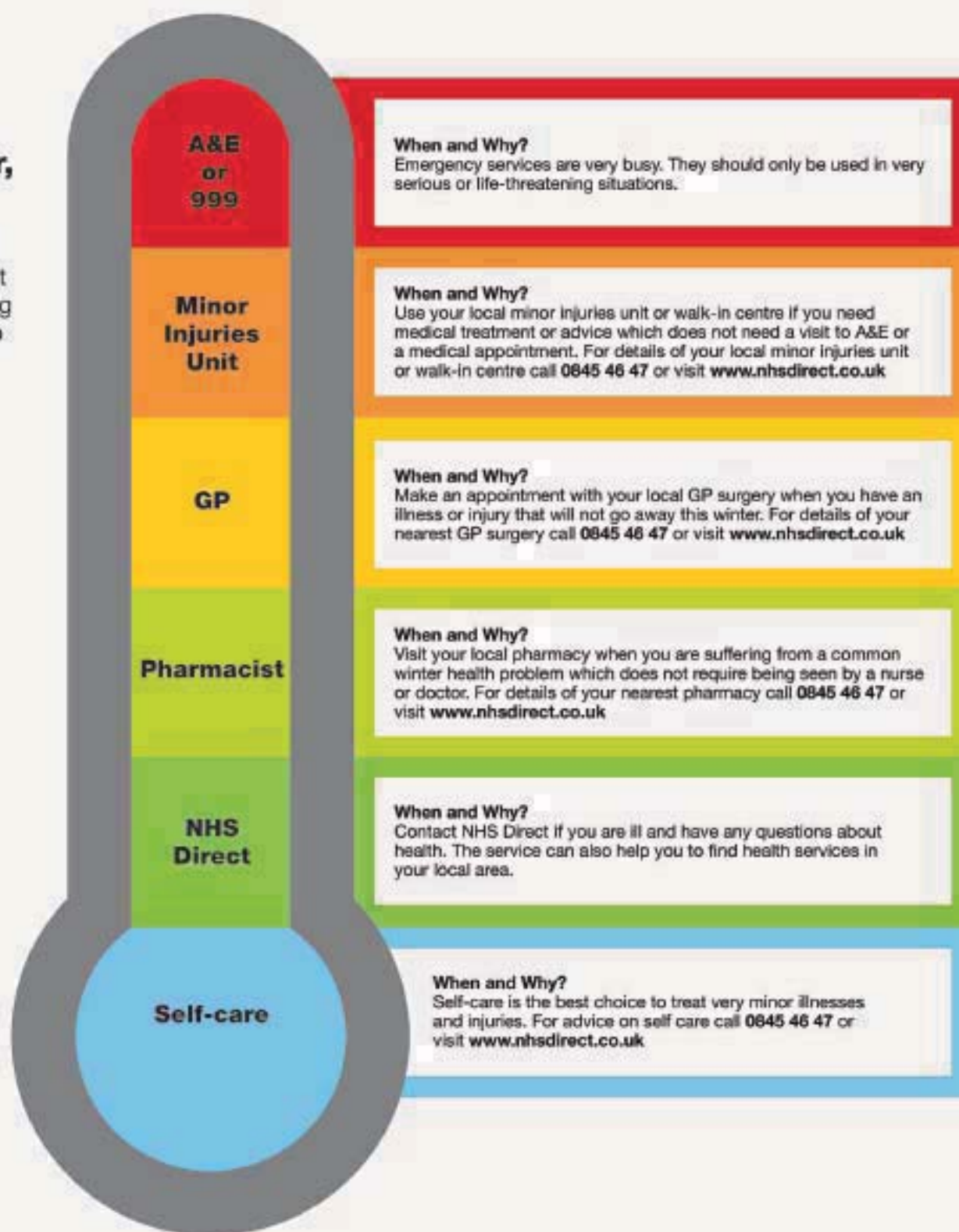
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LIVE & LOCAL

Concert closes festival

THANET Music and Drama Festival continues with more entertaining events.

The speech and drama section can be seen at the Broadstairs Pavilion until Friday, before the festival closes with the gala concert and prize-giving at the Memorial Theatre in Broadstairs on Friday, March 26. For details call 01843 600059, email ljmhill@live.co.uk or visit www.thanetfestival.org.uk.

Pupils' art in exhibition

PROJECTS made by children from Herne Bay Infants School can be admired in a dynamic exhibition.

Get Set for 2012 can be seen at the Bay Art Gallery in William Street, Herne Bay, until Friday. The gallery is open from 10am to 4pm and admission is free. For more information call 01227 372266 or visit www.bayartgallery.co.uk.

Singing with passion

CANTERBURY Choral Society will perform Bach's St Matthew Passion at the city's cathedral on Saturday.

The soloists will be Charles Daniels, Michael Pearce, Mary Bevan, Ben Bevan, David Allsop and Andrew Dickinson. The concert starts at 7pm and tickets are priced from £8 to £25.

Book online at www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk or by calling 01227 787787.

Play is a real conquest

A CLASSIC tale of man's desire to be first is played out in Top of the World.

Spike Theatre's dramatic fiction, based on Edmund Hillary's conquest of Mount Everest, can be seen at Rolvenden Village Hall at 8pm on Saturday.

Priced at £8/£6 or £20 for families, tickets are available from Rolvenden Post Office or by calling 07874 214916.

Slide guitar star in city

ACCLAIMED slide guitarist Phillip Henry will be visiting the Orange Street Music Club in Canterbury tomorrow.

Henry will be supported by John Forrester and Andy Ward-Webb.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £5 from the club on 01227 760801 or from the Canterbury indoor market record stall on 01227 470328.

Tough choice for singer

AN OPERA singer must make terrible choices to survive the 1906 San Francisco earthquake in a stage show.

Caruso and the Quake is at the Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs, at 7.30pm on Saturday. Tickets cost £10 for Sarah Thorne Theatre Club members and £12 for non-members, who must book on 0845 262 6263 or emailing info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk.

Musical on silver screen

SING along to the hit film Moulin Rouge at the Vue Cinema at Westwood Cross on Monday.

There will be entertainment from Top Hat & Cane dance school and there will also be a fancy dress competition.

Moulin Rouge (cert 15) starts at 8pm and tickets cost £5. To book call 08712 240240 or visit www.myvue.com.



Shooting star's chance to shine

ANGELOS EPITHEMIU

Wednesday, March 17
Orange Street Music Club, Canterbury



A TRUE Shooting Star visits Canterbury tonight for an evening of rib-tickling comedy.

The headline act of this week's regular comedy night will be Angelos Epithemiou, now a familiar face on Reeves and Mortimer's surreal BBC panel show, Shooting Stars.

After being hand-picked from the club circuit last year, Epithemiou is now a household name and a popular panellist on the highly successful show.

Dan Renton Skinner's comic creation is a down-at-heel owner of a roadside cafe whose deadpan delivery has audiences in stitches. Sometimes billed as 'anti-comedy', Skinner's aloof and bemused style has won countless fans because he acts as the perfect foil to Reeves and Mortimer's often frantic comedy.

Epithemiou arrived on Shooting Stars for the first time, with his ever-present carrier bag in hand, after Mortimer spotted him in a comedy club last year. He immediately saw the potential in this bespectacled character with greasy hair and dubious taste in anoraks.

Since then, his appearances on Shooting Stars have been a huge success, making him one of the most in-demand stand-ups in the country.

Angelos Epithemiou – pictured with his Shooting Stars co-stars – is not Skinner's first or only comic creation, as the comedian has appeared in many other stage shows, television series and even films. As a member of the Dutch Elm Conservatoire, he honed the craft of sketches and has appeared in the stage productions Mr Winchester, the Benders and the Warp.

Television appearances include sitcoms such as My Family, The Office Christmas specials and Coupling, along with sketch shows like the Katy Brand Show, Armstrong & Miller and Headcases. Other appearances include Mike Bassett: Manager; The Only Boy For Me, Swag, Haunted London, Seven Second Delay, Home Time, Victorian Empire and Pinky & Perky.

Comedy fans should not miss this chance to see Skinner perform as the bemused Epithemiou in a relatively intimate venue, as he is sure to go on and become a big star.

Shooting Stars was first broadcast in 1993 and made a triumphant return to television screens last year after an absence of several years. With its madcap hosts and bizarre challenges, the show soon became renowned for

showing established celebrities in a slightly different light. Television presenter Mark Lamarr and high-brow novelist Will Self both reached new audiences with their roles as the deadpan team captains, while Ulrika Jonsson has been a permanent fixture as a team captain from the beginning of the show.

Vic Reeves – whose real name is Jim Moir – has been highlighting his artistic prowess in recent years, but he first rose to fame as a highly individual comedian. The former pig farmer and factory inspector landed his own television show, Vic Reeves' Big Night Out, and joined forces with former solicitor Bob Mortimer, creating a partnership that would still be going strong more than 20 years later.

They went on to achieve hit singles with cover versions of Dizzy and I'm A Believer, while giving their own unique take on the sketch show format with The Smell of Reeves and Mortimer. Major mainstream success came with Shooting Stars, co-starring Matt Lucas of Little Britain fame, who appeared as score-keeper George Dawes long before his own sketch show made him a star.

Angelos Epithemiou can be seen at Orange Street Music Club at 8.30pm. Tickets cost £6 and can be booked by calling the club on 01227 760801 or visiting the website at www.orangestreetmusic.com.





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BJORN AGAIN

Saturday, March 20, Winter Gardens, Margate



DANCING queens will be in their element when Björn Again presents an evening of Abba-mania.

Rod Stephen's tour gives fans the chance to hear all their favourite Abba songs performed live, including hits from Mamma Mia. The voice of legendary DJ Tony Blackburn can also be heard introducing the hits of 1988, the year in which Björn Again was formed.

Stephen is a musician and director from Australia who decided to leave his previous career in metallurgical research to create a show that captured

the best of 1970s music and fashion. Abba were the perfect inspiration for this show which is considered a satirical parody, rather than a tribute.

Featuring the hits that made Abba famous all over the world, it is a true feel-good experience that has audiences dancing in the aisles and reliving the glory days of this 70s super group. So put on your flares and platforms for an evening of fantastic pop.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £17.50/£16.50. Book online at www.margatewintergardens.co.uk or call the box office on 01843 292795/296111.



TRIVIUM

Monday, March 22, Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



GET ready to head Into the Mouth of Hell when Trivium returns to Folkestone next week. When the American heavy metal band played headline tours in the UK back in 2005 and 2006, they received a warm welcome from music fans in this country. They resolved to return and have finally made good on their promise, visiting the Leas Cliff Hall as part of the 16-date Into the Mouth of Hell Tour.

Guests are to be confirmed, but fans can definitely look forward to an evening of fantastic rock as

Trivium reminds them why the band was such a hit last time.

"The UK was the first place in the world to truly embrace Trivium and make us feel like we had a home away from home on stage," said singer-guitarist Matthew Heafy.

"It's been a long time since we've done a full-blown, multi-date headlining UK tour and man, have we missed it."

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £16.50. To book call the box office on 0844 847 1776 or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.

TOM LEWIS

Friday, March 9, White Lion Hotel, Tenterden



SONGS of the sea are performed by one of the folk world's best entertainers when Tom Lewis returns to Tenterden.

With more than 40 years' experience, Lewis is now a highly acclaimed exponent of nautical songs. Although he emigrated to the mountains of British Columbia in 1983, Lewis has his roots in the UK's folk tradition.

Born in Belfast, he moved with his family to Gloucester as a child and joined the Royal Navy as an engineering apprentice at 16. His interest in folk music and sea songs was sparked by his discovery of various folk singers while based in Scotland and they continued to have a strong influence on him.

Having established himself as a popular folk circuit entertainer while still in the Navy, he moved to Canada upon finishing his service and set out on the road with his wife Lyn. Twenty years on, he is still delighting listeners all over the world.

The Tenterden Folk Club concert will be held in The Saddlery at 8pm and tickets cost £6 in advance or £7 on the door. To book call 01233 626805 or email info@tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk.



MAMER

Wednesday, March 24, Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



INSPIRED by the wilds of China's Xinjiang province, Mamer's haunting music blends tradition with Western influences.

Hailed as one of China's most original and influential young artists, Mamer brings the past and future together in his highly-acclaimed music. His songs of the grassland have their roots firmly in traditional Kazakh folk song and dombra music, yet he also infuses them with elements of Western folk, rock and virtuoso performances on a number of instruments.

Now a cult figure on Beijing's underground scene, Mamer grew up in the strong musical tradition of Kazakh nomadic culture, yet developed a love of bands like The Doors, Yes and Pink Floyd. With his debut album, Eagle, he confirms his position as 'the father of Chinagrass' – honest, simple music that honours its roots and continues to evolve.

Using traditional instruments and lyrical, ambient sounds, Mamer breathes life into ancient tunes.

The concert starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £10 or £5 for the first 200 Encore! Gulbenkian members. To book call 01227 769075 or visit www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.



THE RIDDLE OF THE SANDS

Various dates, various venues



ENTER a world of suspense and espionage in the gripping play, The Riddle of the Sands.

Prior to a London run, Chalkfoot Theatre Arts is touring this thrilling production to a number of small venues across Kent once again. The exciting adaptation of Erskine Childers' Edwardian book, considered to be the forerunner of the modern spy novel, was made into a popular film starring Jenny Agutter and Michael York.

With two actors playing a variety of diverse characters, the play offers suspense, adventure and tongue-in-cheek humour. Set just before the outbreak of the First World War, the show sees two young men set out on a yachting expedition that turns into a dangerous spying mission.

The show can be seen at Temple Ewell Village Hall on Thursday; St Nicholas Church in New Romney on Friday; the Ellen Terry Barn Theatre at Smalhythe Place in Tenterden on Thursday, March 25 to Saturday, March 27 and the Theatre Royal Margate on Sunday, March 28.

Admission prices and box office details vary so visit www.chalkfoot.org.uk or call 01843 280077 to find out more.



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CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

No129

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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

EASY

7			8					1
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MEDIUM

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HARD

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		7				8		
		5	6		3			
	8					7	1	
		1		9		6	2	
4								5

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 8 Above average form for the rich (4-5)
 9 Get off the mark (5)
 10 I incited a bent authority on food (9)
 11 Is it let off by cook? (5)
 12 Passing on one's duty (11,3)
 15 An Oriental goes west again (4)
 17 Many a leg used in ascent (5)
 19 Society yesterday not concerned initially with agreement in time (4)
 21 Business done at agricultural plant? (7,7)
 23 Quick hit I had (5)
 24 Free of charge! (9)
 26 This river goes in opposite directions from time to time (5)
 27 Prospector's infectious disease? (9)

DOWN

- 1 Much reduced wear often seen at the pool (6)
 2 Large number that had not started to exhibit programme (4,4)
 3 Thrilling type of storm? (8)
 4 Some quasi-autonomous area! (4)
 5 Cases I dealt with after January 1st for the lady (7)
 6 Picture party set out (8)
 7 Previously unknown country state (3,6)
 13 Unusually fit, he is one who takes by stealth (5)
 14 50% of a lie (4-5)
 16 Eased cap off during prank (8)
 18 Purplish-red wine (8)
 19 Knocked over by a cheese? (8)
 20 Boat, drifter to start in choppy lagoon (7)
 22 Man's hot spring, say (6)
 25 Bobby put ring in cage (4)

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 8 Balance (9)
 9 Pedro (anag.) (5)
 10 Vaporise (9)
 11 Meaning (5)
 12 Reconsideration (6,8)
 15 Untie (4)
 17 Wedding gift (5)
 19 Spoken (4)
 21 Sea change (14)
 23 Goblin (5)
 24 Art form (9)
 26 Pepper and salt (5)
 27 Unlimited (4-5)

DOWN

- 1 Part of the trunk (6)
 2 Cold soup (8)
 3 Not having been pressed (8)
 4 Adjacent (4)
 5 Offhand (7)
 6 Weigh heavy object (2-6)
 7 Unfavourably (9)
 13 Wrote (anag.) (5)
 14 Very short time (4,1,4)
 16 Discussion (8)
 18 Lasting twelve months (8)
 19 Leaving out (8)
 20 Quarantine (7)
 22 Cared for (6)
 25 Pace (anag.) (4)

YOUR HOROSCOPE BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

IT'S time to take a leap of faith. Even an ultra logical person like you needs to follow their heart from time to time. If you've wanted to change your look, now is the time to do so. Go ahead and spend a little extra money on new clothes, a different hairstyle, or a personal trainer.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

A ROMANTIC or business partner needs your help. Although their proposal is risky, it's also exciting. You're prepared to do whatever you can to get the ball rolling. Use every ounce of charm to convince an authority figure to give your friend a break.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

A CREATIVE project has come to fruition. Get ready to take a bow. The success of this endeavour will result in a new opportunity. At first, you won't be sure if you're up to the job, but after the first few tries you'll develop a taste for this work. Be patient.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

THE time has come to sign a legal paper or make an agreement. Fortunately, the stars look favourably on this alliance. It looks as if you'll acquire a creative partner in the mix. Set time aside in your schedule for a youngster's performance or recital.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

YOU'RE tired of smiling politely while a romantic or business partner steals your thunder. Over the past two weeks, you've had several impressive successes. Now it's time to make sure everyone knows about them. Fortunately, your work will be rewarded accordingly.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

A GROUP effort finally comes to a successful conclusion, much to your relief. For a while there, you wondered if any of you were going to survive. Good news from a counsellor or spiritual advisor is music to your ears. Now you're able to put plans for a child into motion.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

IT'S time to settle an obligation, whether it's repaying a loan or keeping an old promise. Do a kind deed anonymously. Serving as someone's secret benefactor puts a spring in your step. The more generous you are, the easier it will be to attract good fortune.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

IMPROVING your work conditions will make you more productive and happy. Lately, you've started to dread your job. You can't let this state of affairs continue. Fortunately, a visionary authority figure will give you the green light to rearrange the office space.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

YOUR family has reached an exciting turning point. A youngster is old enough to assume some big responsibilities, enabling you to turn your attention to work you abandoned years ago. It makes you so proud to see everybody developing so nicely. Most of the credit is due to you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOU'LL finally receive payment for a job you performed some time ago. Take this opportunity to treat yourself to a luxurious item that has been tempting for months. As a general rule, you're not very materialistic. Go ahead and splurge. A dream job will fall into your lap.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

A DEEP, dark secret comes to light, enabling you to see a relative's true motives. It turns out your family member had your best interests at heart, after all. Embarking on a romance could be in the cards. It looks as if a talented artist has taken a shine to you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

AT LONG last, you're getting the attention and acclaim you desire. A job you've been craving will suddenly become available. This time around, you'll be given the top spot. Getting paid to exercise your creative vision will feel like heaven on earth.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD & SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No128

ACROSS: 1 Quipster 6 Notify 9 Play on 10 Monitory 11 Very Reverend 13 Joust 14 Wednesday 17 Feathered 19 Bleak 21 Windsor chair 24 Chandler 25 Pre-war 26 Friend 27 Toddling. **DOWN:** 2 Ugly 3 Pay a visit 4 Tenure 5 Remorse 6 Non-event 7 Tutor 8 Far and away 12 Come-hither 15 Solar cell 16 Recoiled 18 Excerpt 20 Zapped 22 Dance 23 Barn.

QUICK SOLUTION No129

ACROSS: 8 Remainder 9 Roped 10 Evaporate 11 Sense 12 Second thoughts 15 Unde 17 Downy 19 Oral 21 Transformation 23 Troll 24 Sculpture 26 Cruet 27 Open-ended. **DOWN:** 1 Anchor 7 Adversely 13 Tower 14 Just a tick 16 Dialogue 18 Yearlong 19 Omitting 20 Isolate 22 Nursed 25 Cape.

EASY

4	8	7	2	6	1	3	5	9
9	1	5	4	3	8	6	2	7
3	2	6	9	7	5	4	8	1
5	9	4	7	8	6	1	3	2
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6	7	8	3	1	2	9	4	5
8	4	3	1	5	7	2	9	6
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7	5	9	6	2	4	8	1	3

MEDIUM

7	4	5	3	9	1	8	6	2
9	2	3	7	8	6	5	4	1
8	6	1	4	2	5	9	3	7
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5	9	2	6	3	8	1	7	4
1	8	4	9	7	2	6	5	3
3	7	6	5	1	4	2	9	8

HARD

3	7	9	6	2	1	8	4	5
1	6	4	5	7	8	2	3	9
2	8	5	9	4	3	6	1	7
6	5	1	8	9	7	4	2	3
9	2	3	4	6	5	7	8	1
7	4	8	1	3	2	5	9	6
4	1	2	7	5	9	3	6	8
8	3	7	2	1	6	9	5	4
5	9	6	3	8	4	1	7	2

yourstyle



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Spiral cushion,
price £10

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3D Four Flower cushion, price £35



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Satin bright cushions, price
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Pair of butterfly cushions, price £19



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Pied a Terre rose stripe cushion,
price £30

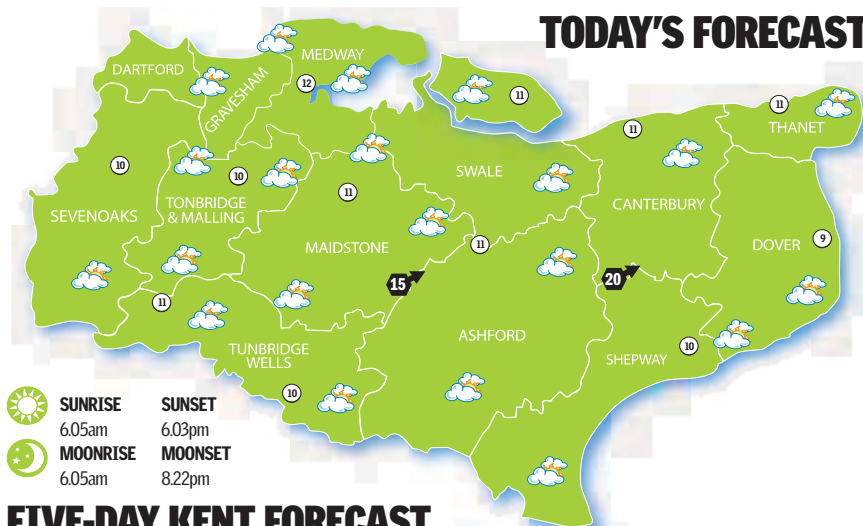


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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	3:19pm	5.8m
	Sunday	3:54pm	5.6m
Dover	Saturday	1:15pm	6.3m
	Sunday	1:52pm	6.2m
Dungeness	Saturday	1:31pm	7.5m
	Sunday	2:09pm	7.2m
Ramsgate	Saturday	1:45pm	4.8m
	Sunday	2:22pm	4.7m
Sheerness	Saturday	3:09pm	5.5m
	Sunday	3:44pm	5.4m
Whitstable	Saturday	3:04pm	5.0m
	Sunday	3:36pm	4.9m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	7°C	Madrid	13°C
Athens	11°C	New York	9°C
Barcelona	11°C	Paris	12°C
Beijing	2°C	Rome	13°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	25°C
Cape Town	28°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	10°C	Tokyo	15°C
Gibraltar	16°C	Vancouver	9°C
Hong Kong	27°C	Warsaw	-1°C
Las Palmas	21°C	Wellington	21°C



ENCHANTING: Rude Mechanical Theatre's production of the Brother Grimms' The Musicians of Bremen

Theatre group brings Grimm folk tales to life

FAIRYTALES by the Brothers Grimm are played out with charm and flair in The Musicians of Bremen.

On Sunday the Rude Mechanical Theatre Company will be giving a performance of their acclaimed family show at Astley Hall in Maidstone, the headquarters of Kent Music.

Suitable for children aged from three to nine and their families, this enchanting production is now on tour for a second year due to huge public demand.

When old donkey Bruno decides to run away, he is joined by a motley crew of friends with their own problems. Alberta the fox hound is scared of foxes, while the cat Cornelia is frightened of mice. Along with the noisy and magnificent rooster Fritz, the group decide to form a jazz band and become known as the Musicians of Bremen.

The show follows their adventures as they come across a posse of robbers and an abandoned baby, while learning about friendship, loyalty, courage, ambition, growing old and triumph over adversity.

The performance starts at 2.30pm and tickets cost £6/£4 or £16 for families of four. To book call 01622 358439 or visit www.rudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk.

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	12°C	12°C	13°C	12°C	11°C	Gravesend	12°C	13°C	14°C	13°C	11°C
Canterbury	9°C	11°C	13°C	12°C	11°C	Maidstone	11°C	12°C	14°C	13°C	12°C
Chatham	10°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	11°C	Ramsgate	9°C	11°C	13°C	12°C	11°C
Dartford	12°C	13°C	14°C	13°C	11°C	Rochester	10°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	11°C
Dover	8°C	10°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Sevenoaks	10°C	11°C	12°C	10°C	10°C
Faversham	10°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	11°C	Sittingbourne	10°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	11°C
Folkestone	8°C	10°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Tonbridge	11°C	11°C	13°C	11°C	11°C
Gillingham	10°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	11°C	Tun Wells	11°C	11°C	13°C	11°C	11°C

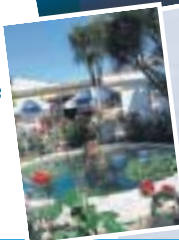
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Norfolk BB	£279	£319	£349	£369	£379

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yourcompetition

WIN! Thomas the Tank Engine goodies

THOMAS the Tank Engine is coming to Westwood Cross Smyths toy shop this month.

Come down on March 30 and meet The Fat Controller, and to celebrate we have great Thomas The Tank Engine goodies to giveaway!

Thomas & Friends have been entertaining preschoolers everywhere for a huge 65 years. And now a collection of toys and games from Fisher-Price is set to help a new generation bring Thomas' adventures to life, including the all new Talking Engines.

Bringing your favourite trains to life like never before! Little fans can now enjoy exploits with the first ever collection of die-cast characters featuring their very own voices.



Just like in the hit movie, Hero of the Rails, Thomas fans can hear their engines speak for the very first time for even more interactive adventures. Push them along, the quicker you go, the more they 'choo choo'!

Little Thomas fans can recreate their favourite engines' adventures with a range of die-cast vehicles showcasing characters new and old.

Vehicles are available in small, medium or large scale depending on the size of the engines in the show. All are compatible with Take 'n'

Play Playsets.

Perfect for those engines who just never like to be seen on their own! The multi-packs come with themed coaches and tenders for extra adventure. Each durable die-cast character and coach features smart magnets, which allow them to be connected any way, and are compatible with all die-cast take along playsets.

Simply answer this question:

Q) Which shopping centre is the Fat Controller visiting on March 30 in Thanet?

Send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Thomas & The Tank Engine Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

The closing date is March 31.

No purchase necessary.

For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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yourmusic

Festival season is on its way!



HEADLINE ACT: Reverend and the Makers have been confirmed at Sellindge Festival

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

LIVE music fans arise from your snow-induced slumber.

The arctic conditions have subsided and the balmy days of spring and summer are within touching distance.

And with the sunshine comes a plethora of now established and much-loved music festivals.

These include the family-focused Lounge on the Farm (Canterbury), Hop Farm Festival (conveniently situated at the Hop Farm, Paddock Wood) and the Sellindge Festival (near Ashford).

Dates aside, details are still sketchy to say the least, with festival organisers working around the clock to fill their line-ups with the best of Kent's up-and-coming acts, chart toppers as well as the odd genuine legend.

Sellindge Festival bosses have confirmed a number of top bands on their website, with the cream of the crop coming in the form of Reverend and The Makers.

The Sheffield-based outfit, famed for singles such as Heavyweight Champion of the World, He Said He Loved Me and Open Your Window, will take a top slot of the main stage line up.

They will be joined by the Grand Master of Reggae himself, the legendary Lee 'Scratch' Perry, who has been inspiring artists across the globe since he first shook up the industry in 1954.

Other confirmed performers include Jonny Foreigner, The Foxes, Laura Vane, Heels Catch Fire and The Gin Riots.

There's plenty on offer at the festival's four other stages, which include WoFo (world and folk), dance and BBC Introducing.

Sellindge is the first of Kent's major festivals and will be followed by Lounge on the Farm and the Hop Farm weekenders.

LOTF, held at Merton Farm, Canterbury, has earned a reputation as the county's best-loved, family friendly event, putting substance before size.

Meanwhile, the Hop Farm team

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yourkenttv.co.uk



Singer songwriter Tom Norris performs Vienna from album Edge of the World



Girl duo Callista perform Kings of Leon's Use Somebody.



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

1. The Suspects - 26/3 The Rose Broadstairs
2. CWB - 27/3 The Walmer Castle Deal
3. Rogues Down - 5/4 The Forum Tunbridge Wells
4. Save Target AS - 6/4 Kent Uni Canterbury
5. Craig Sheridan - 10/4 The Alma Deal

can claim to be the biggest bookers, with the organisers behind last year's weekender enticing musical giants such as Ash, Paul Weller, Dover and Super Furry Animals.

For all the latest festival news as and when it is released visit www.kentnews.co.uk

FESTIVAL DATES

Sellindge - Friday, June 11 to Sunday, 13
Hop Farm - from Saturday, July 3
Lounge on the Farm - Friday, July 9 to Sunday, 11



WORTH A VISIT: The National Trust property Ickworth House, Horringer, and below, St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds

yourgetaways



So much to see , just a short drive from home

■ BY PETER WOODMAN

STAYCATIONS – where people holiday in Britain to keep costs down – are all the rage at present, so we took ourselves off to Suffolk.

Our first stop was Newmarket, close to the racecourse which made this town world famous. We stayed at Bedford Lodge, an imposing hotel a short walk from the centre of town.

From the hotel we could see racehorses being led to the practice gallop areas.

In the town, there are numerous pubs and restaurants, as well as a national horse-racing museum, which traces the story of British racing from its Royal origins at Newmarket to the modern day. Visitors also have the chance to ride a racehorse simulator.

We drove to the nearby West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village and Country Park, where an old village from the period 420-650AD has been excavated and carefully reconstructed.

Our next stop was the historic market town of Bury St Edmunds. Our suite in The Angel Hotel looked over the town's main square to the splendid St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

Keen to keep St Edmund's memory alive, the locals built a great abbey to house the king's remains.

Thwarted in his attempt to make a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, one abbot – Anselm – instead built a church to St James next door to the abbey in the 12th century. This became St Edmundsbury Cathedral in 1914, and we walked down the nave which was built by Tudor architect John



Wastell, whose works include King's College in Cambridge.

Almost 50 years of work on the cathedral was completed in 2005, and has resulted in an imposing Millennium Tower, a complete rebuilding of the east end of the cathedral, and a new porch and cloisters.

It was only a short drive along the A143 from Bury to the sleepy village of Horringer for our final stop, and we thought we would try self-catering. That's how we ended up at The Old Piggery – a delightful converted cottage on the edge of the village.

Newly-renovated, this is a romantic base for couples with a beamed living area, luxury bathroom and splendid kitchen.

By now, the weather, which had been a bit patchy, had settled for hot sun and cloudless skies. Outside the cottage, bees invaded the lavender in a high-summer frenzy. We strolled through the village to The Beehive pub for a sumptuous meal.

Horringer is home to Ickworth House, home of the historic and eccentric Hervey family. Set in 1,500 acres of grounds, the house is a giant

Peter Woodman stayed at Bedford Lodge, Newmarket, where double rooms (B&B) start at £99 per night.

Reservations: 01638 663175 and www.bedfordlodgehotel.co.uk.

In Bury St Edmunds, double rooms (B&B) at The Angel start at £90.

Reservations: 01284 714000 and www.theangel.co.uk.

Peter's stay at The Old Piggery was arranged by Best of Suffolk, which offers two-night breaks from £225, three nights from £285, a week from £495.

Reservations: 01728 638962 and www.bestofsuffolk.co.uk.

A three-course lunch at The Beehive Pub, Horringer starts at £20.

rotunda full of famous paintings, and has been under the care of the National Trust since 1956.

Bury St Edmunds is handily placed for a seaside trip to Aldeburgh, a jolly town where we enjoyed a chilly, but bracing walk along the seafront.

There are plenty of restaurants close to the sea in a resort that has not changed much since the great days of the UK bucket-and-spade holiday.

Close to the seafront is the Moot Hall – the town's old meeting place, which dates from the 16th century and now houses a museum.

We also made the time for a stroll around Framlingham, a delightful market town which could be the prettiest spot in Suffolk. You can walk the ramparts of a quirky 12th century castle, which was modernised by Tudors who felt the need to add high, twisting chimneys.

The landscape is worthy of Constable, the great artist whose work brought this splendid corner of England to a wider audience.

So, rather than jet off abroad, book yourself a staycation instead.

MOTORS NEWS



Alfa's MiTo gets fitter from taking in the air

IT'S been on sale in the UK for just a year or so, but Alfa Romeo has already tweaked its stylish answer to the BMW Mini.

Amongst several improvements, the MiTo sporting supermini now has a MultiAir powertrain option answering a conundrum solved by few carmakers: how to lower fuel consumption and emissions while boosting power.

For the Italian star, the answer lies in sophisticated metering of air in the combustion cycle, hence the labelling for the popular 1.4-litre turbocharged petrol engine series (from £15,165).



Sixth generation BMW Five is a top attraction

BMW's new 5-Series saloon, on sale later this month, is the most highly anticipated new car of 2010, according to a poll.

The German carmaker's latest model took 20 per cent of votes to beat off competition from the new Audi A8 (14 per cent) and Jaguar XJ (11) in a survey by ContractHireAndLeasing.com.

Always a hit on the contract hire market, the sixth generation model is tipped to do even better than before by borrowing interior features and luxury from the director-level BMW 7-Series.



New 'F' grade all set to boost Lexus IS appeal

WHAT'S in a letter? Lots when you sell cars into the status conscious compact executive sector.

BMW employs the letter 'M' to denote sportier 3-Series models, Audi uses 'RS' and 'S' to boost the A4 line-up and wannabe Japanese rival Lexus is turning to 'F' to drive the IS range.

It stunned rivals with the IS-F V8 model, but this is a rare 'halo car'. What the IS really needed is the new F-Sport grade (£28,290) with exclusive alloys, grille, bootlid spoiler and cabin highlights.



UTTERLY ROOF-LESS: Peugeot have made improvements to the 207CC, with a roof that raises in 25 seconds and a more unisex appeal, but it is still no sports car in terms of style

Peugeot 207CC upholds true crop top traditions

ROAD TEST PEUGEOT 207CC

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

There is a good spread of engines even if none packs much of a punch, and Peugeot has done a fine job making the 207CC feel rigid even in 'top down' mode – when the car looks best.

Despite a 2+2 layout, the rear seats will really only take children and are also horribly upright; should your tots fall asleep by some miracle, they will loll horribly as if dosed with alcopops to cut short any cries of "are we there yet?"

But the space is fine for shopping bags or luggage, especially when the roof is down and boot access slightly compromised.

Our 207CC test car was a highest spec GT model with the flagship diesel engine too and while this gives the car a lot of low down urge for pulling out of junctions and making progress on rural roads, it makes the Peugeot feel heavy. Having driven petrol models previously, I reckon they are the better bet here.

I also doubt whether a high specification is worth the money; you get alloys, air con and most other normal 'toys' on the Sport entry trim and trading up makes the 207CC look expensive against obvious rivals such as the Mini Convertible and Mitsubishi's Colt CZC.



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What Car? magazine has given the new Superb Estate an excellent write-up in its first review, calling the car "big, comfortable, plush and fine value".

The magazine was particularly impressed by the value-for-money offered by the Superb Estate, saying it's, "cracking value and undercuts the equivalent Mondeo Estate by thousands."



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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

SMALLER 4x4s

IT'S not hard to see why compact 4x4 or sports utility vehicle (SUV) sales boomed ahead of the recession. By combining trendy off-road looks and high riding MPV versatility carmakers scored a double bull's-eye. Hi-tech diesels also allowed owners to buy image without paying wallet-busting fuel prices, but even small 4x4s are now seen as less socially and environmentally acceptable and used prices have fallen. However, one person's distress sale can be another's bargain buy – three of the best are featured here.

carsforkent.co.uk

HONDA CR-V



HONDA'S CR-V is one of the best compact SUVs, but sales of the smart first generation car were hamstrung by the lack of a diesel option. That changed with the more rugged Mark II (pictured) and continues through the current and more stylish model – one of the smoothest, quietest and most economical diesels in the sector. All CR-Vs have smart, durable and versatile cabins, plus Honda reliability and, latterly, a 'Made in Britain' tag from production at Honda Swindon.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

TOYOTA RAV



TOYOTA'S original RAV4 was dubbed 'the GTI off-roader' and revolutionised the small 4x4 sector. The Japanese marque recognised that few 4x4s actually went anywhere where they needed extra traction, so it concentrated on maximising on-road performance and comfort – the RAV was a huge success. The Mark II (pictured) was chunkier and roomier with removable rear seats while the current range has folding rear seats. Marks I and II included three as well as five-door models.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

KIA SPORTAGE



KIA pretty much copied the RAV4 formula to create the Sportage, but this is no poor copy. Early examples couldn't match the driving experience of the RAV, but interior build and general rough ground ability is impressive. A midlife makeover boosted quality and on-road handling and attracted an awesome seven-year warranty. Diesels are the best buys, purely on grounds of economy. Shop around and you can also save on the two-wheel drive version, a recent introduction to the range.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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2005 05 SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners. Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse parking aid, Part Service History, Air conditioning, Climate Control, Park distance control **£7,195**

2002 52 SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 73,000 miles, Steel Grey, ABS, Alloy wheels, Full Electric Pack, Cruise control, Park distance control, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Leather upholstery, Metallic paintwork, Tinted glass **£5,495**

2001 Y SAAB 9-3 2.2 TiD SE, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 122,000 miles, Metallic blue, 2 Owners. Rear wiper, ABS, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Alloy wheels, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, Front head restraints, Front fog lights, Central locking, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Foglights, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Full Service History, Alarm, Climate Control, Cloth upholstery, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, Rear armrest, PAS, Child locks, Service indicator, Insurance Group: 12 **£3,195**

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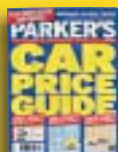


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147, 1.9 JTD LUSO, 2004, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 58113 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147, T SPARK LUSO, 2005, abs brakes alloy wheels climate control cruise control electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer remote central locking rear seat entertainment, silver, 33578 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 116i Sport, 2004, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, titanium silver, 41350 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 330 ci auto convertible, 2000, orient blue metallic with sand beige sport leather, 60000 miles, £8995, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 330d m sport coupe, 2004, sapphire black metallic with beige leather sport s, 98000 miles, £7950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

M5, MSport, 2009, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic transmission bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic black, 22000 miles, £26000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

Z4, Z4 2.5 Convertible, 1v53gkf, power hood, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, full leather, cd player, radio, traction control, abs, power steering, immobiliser, remote central locking, multiple airbags, front fog lamps, 17" alloys, sapphire black met, 77000 miles, £9289, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, 1.6 HDi 75hp L1 625 X van, 2008, white, 10000 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6 HDi 75hp L1 625 X van, 2009, white, 5000 miles, £7200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6 HDi 600kg, 2009, white, 5000 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Forte, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning central locking electric windows immobiliser split folding rear seats remote central locking, artic steel, 10250 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIAT

500, SPORT, 2008, air conditioning bluetooth car kit electric windows front fog lights immobiliser mp3 player multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking remote audio controls, orange, 7189 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 261 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, black, 7811 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, blue, 6654 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Multijet 165 Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, red, 11549 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, T-Jet Active, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, grey, 35000 miles, £26000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FORD

FIESTA, Style 1.4 Tdci, 2007, tango red metallic with charcoal trim, 38000 miles, £5490, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Zetec Climate 1.6 TDCi, 2008, panther black, 20000 miles, £8495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, avalon, 0 miles, £11795, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec, 2001, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, blue, 54028 miles, £5100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec Auto, 2001, alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, silver, 29749 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2008, white, 55 miles, £21100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £20990, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2008, black, 55 miles, £20990, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £20990, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes multiple airbags, black, 55 miles, £26600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, SE AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission drivers airbag electric windows full service history metallic paint leather interior power steering, black, 51350 miles, £8990, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, 2.7, 2007, black, 41440 miles, £20900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, 2.7, 2007, black, 41440 miles, £20900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, 2.7, 2007, red, 41440 miles, £20800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, 2.7, 2007, red, 41440 miles, £20800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KIA

RIO, Zapp, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history power steering, red, 31456 miles, £5580, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

RIO, Zapp, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history power steering, red, 31456 miles, £5580, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MAZDA

2, 1.4, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, green, 55 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, black, 55 miles, £13100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

CLC220 CDI, 2009, jasper blue metallic, 5000 miles, £19494, Tonbridge, 0844 558 7055 (TRADE)

CLC220 CDI, 2009, carmel red metallic, 9658 miles, £20998, Canterbury, 0844 558 7049 (TRADE)

CLC220 CDI, 2010, iridium silver metallic, 6000 miles, £19994, Tonbridge, 0844 558 7055 (TRADE)

MINI

COOPER, 1.6, 2003, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover trip computer auto headlights and wipers, electric blue, 46739 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, CZ1, 2006, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags isofix child seat points, metallic black, 29000 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

COLT, CZ2 Di-D (Auto), 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, grey, 29698 miles, £5780, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

NISSAN

ALMERA, 1.5, 2008, blue, 44 miles, £8100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ALMERA, 1.5, 2008, red, 44 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ALMERA, 1.5, 2008, blue, 44 miles, £8100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ALMERA, 1.5, 2008, red, 44 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

1007, 1.4 DOLCE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats sports seats tonneau cover traction control remote central locking, flamenco red, 33330 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

206, Style Zest 3dr, 7627079, power steering, abs, cd player, radio, twin air bags, remote central locking, remote alarm, front fog lamps, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, silver, 26900 miles, £4395, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

RENAULT

MEGANE, 1.6, 2008, central locking electric windows metallic paint, blue, 44 miles, £24890, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MEGANE, 1.6, 2008, black, 44 miles, £22600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

SCENIC, s, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking climate control electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, green, 55000 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

ASTRA, Elite 1.8i 16v Automatic, 2008, black metallic with charcoal leather, 27000 miles, £7490, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

CORSA, Energy, 2004, vauxhall corsa for sale, one lady owner from new, drives lovely and starts everytime, features include: -alloy wheels -1.0 l, petrol -electric front windows -stereo/cd player -height adjustable drivers seat -remote central locking -abs breaks -cheap insurance great run around, with cheap petrol, and insurance. vgc has small scratch/dent along drivers side (hence lower price although i was quoted £200 to get this repaired) recently had a new cambelt fitted, mot till july 2010, tax till june 2010, service history, if interested please get in touch and i will forward on photographs, grey (moon dust silver), 67000 miles, £2500, Tracey Ramsay, Kent, 01634 852539 (PRIVATE)

CORSA, Life, 2008, abs brakes electric windows immobiliser remote central locking, silver, 23000 miles, £7300, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CORSA, Life, 2008, abs brakes electric windows remote central locking, black, 21085 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)



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PROPERTY NEWS



Trackers no longer the bargains they seemed

Steve Osborne, *The Mortgage Man*, shares his expertise with you in this new fortnightly column

A HEALTHY rise in house purchases over the past three months suggests that the spring sunshine has managed to warm up the housing market, even if it is still struggling to chase off the cold and frosty weather.

It is perhaps appropriate for this first column to begin with the welcome news that the shoots of recovery really are beginning to show.

The Mortgage Company has seen a noticeable rise in purchases over the past three months.

Before the recession there was a lot of interest in tracker mortgages – but are they still such a good deal now, or would you be better off looking at one of the fixed rate products?

Before the financial crisis, lenders were offering tracker rates as low as 0.1 per cent above Bank of England Base Rate, which was up to 5.75 per cent.

Since then, the base rate has fallen to an all-time low of 0.5 per cent, but lenders have steadily increased their tracker margins to an average of 2.5 per cent above base. The cheapest deal is currently 1.44 per cent above base, but this comes with a big fee, and a more realistic rate would be between 2.5 per cent and three per cent.

Compare that with current fixed rates, which start at 2.89 per cent for two years, and you start to see that trackers are no longer that special, and fixed rate mortgages will give you absolute certainty over your monthly payments.

With an election looming and a huge amount of government borrowing to repay, you might think rates could rise. There is no realistic opportunity for rates to fall, and the reassurance of knowing how much you are going to have to pay may balance the slight extra cost at the outset.

Steve Osborne - Director
The Mortgage Company
The Oast
Park Barn Farm
Canterbury Road
Ashford TN25 4EW



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Check tenants to avoid criminal damage costs

■ BY NICK AMES

PRIVATELY-rented properties throughout the UK are being targeted by criminal gangs as a smokescreen for brothels and drug factories.

According to the National Landlords' Association (NLA), gangsters are attracted to rented properties for growing cannabis and manufacturing crystal meth because they are often in quiet residential areas where their activities can continue undisturbed.

Not only is the activity illegal, it could also pose a substantial fire risk as electricity cables are wired up or bypassed.

"If they are caught it is not the criminal tenant who has to foot the bill for damages to the property but the landlord," said David Plaister of landlord's group LetAssured UK Ltd.

One professional landlord reported that repairs to two of his properties that had been used to grow cannabis cost more than £20,000.

The criminals had removed internal walls and disconnected the properties from the mains electricity, thus by-passing the meter.

LetAssured recommend that landlords ensure that their tenants are comprehensively referenced using advanced data monitoring.

Mr Plaister said: "We would include credit checks, employer references and previous landlord references in our search."

"We empower landlords to visit their properties on a regular basis and not leave this to a managing agent, should the property be managed."

The NLA also recommends that landlords who suspect their tenants of criminal activity do not confront them but go straight to the police.

NLA chairman David Salusbury said that in many cases landlords could face repair bills of thousands of pounds, as many insurance policies are rendered invalid when criminal activity takes place in a property.

His comments came as police in the UK called on insurers to add clauses to policies so that landlords are no longer covered if their



CANNABIS FACTORY: By-passing electricity meters could pose a substantial fire risk to your property

properties are damaged by cannabis growers.

The police want landlords to be registered along with their properties, and the properties to be inspected by local authorities.

The association highlighted five ways for landlords to combat criminal gangs:

- Take detailed references. These should include a credit check, and references from their employer and their current landlord.
- Don't take rent up front. Often criminals offer this as a way to ensure they are left alone.
- Check on the property regularly. This can be done at least quarterly or more regularly if you have concerns, provided you have given sufficient notice.
- Get to know the neighbours, as they can alert you to any suspicious activity.
- If you have suspicions of criminal behaviour

do not confront your tenant. Go straight to the police.

Mr Salusbury said it was vital that landlords were aware of the threat criminals posed.

He said: "Criminal activity not only has an impact on the landlord's property, but on the community as whole."

"The production of some drugs involves highly flammable material, which poses a dangerous fire risk. More worryingly, criminals use the proceeds of their crime to fund other, more serious crimes, such as people trafficking."

"You may think 'it will never happen to me', but these incidents are on the increase. The checks you make before a tenant moves in are a key way to prevent becoming a victim of these crimes."

Cut out estate agent for better deal, says expert

A SHAKE-UP in how property is sold could help people get a better deal, a report from the Office of Fair Trading has suggested.

Industry expert David Amstell, founder of property website Briffy.com, which offers online property listings for just £55, said regulations to allow vendors to put their homes online themselves would "cut out the estate

agent and all the nonsense that comes with them".

He claims that property prices go up because of the hype that agents create.

"If it wasn't for agents, property prices would probably be a lot lower," Mr Amstell said. "And, in reality, agents for the most part only do what vendors could do them-

selves – list their property online", he added.

The OFT report found that updating legislation to allow new entrants into the market could give buyers and sellers a better arrangement.

It highlighted weak competition between agents on fees and the correlation between rising house prices and higher charges.

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Faversham £155,000

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- Three bedroom semi detached home
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen
- Conservatory, bathroom, parking

Offers in excess of £230,000

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Canterbury

- Three bedroom semi detached house
- Lounge, kitchen, bathroom
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Hersden

- Three bedroom terrace home
- Dining room, lounge, kitchen, utility room
- Conservatory, bathroom

Offers in excess of £159,995

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Wingham

- Two bedroom retirement cottage
- Village of Wingham.
- Internal viewing recommended.

£159,000

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Canterbury,

- Two bedroom end terrace house
- Lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom
- Front and rear gardens

£140,000

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Aylesham

- Two bedroom terraced house.
- Lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom.
- D/glazing, c/heating, off road parking

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Canterbury,



£159,950

Three bed detached home. d/glazing & c/heating. Garden & hard standing facilities for two to three cars.

Canterbury



£185,000

Three bed end of terraced home with driveway/garage facilities and situated in a cul-de-sac location.

Chartham



£189,950

Detached home, Established gardens, lounge, d/glazing, c/heating. Garage to the front with one car hard standing.

Sturry



£195,000

Two bed detached bungalow. Lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen, bathroom. Garage with drive.

Canterbury



£215,000

Two bed apartment. Open plan lounge to kitchen/dining area. En-suite to master, bathroom. Secure parking

Canterbury



£229,500

Three bed semi-detached home. two reception rooms, kitchen & attic room. Gardens, garage & driveway.

Canterbury



£350,000

Three bed extended semi-detached home. Two reception rooms, fitted kitchen & bathroom/wc to the first floor.

Canterbury



Asking Price £390,000

Four bed family home. Kitchen/diner, two reception rooms, shower room, utility area, conservatory, garden.

Birchington



£490,000

Four bed detached house. Lounge, study, bathroom fitted kitchen/diner, utility room en suite to master, garden.

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CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £625,000

Exceptional Marine residence arranged over 5 floors with extensive sea front and sea views. Located between the Pier and Bandstand with rear access and parking from Telford Street.



BELTINGE, HERNE BAY £495,000

Superior detached 5/6 bedroom family house located on the east side of town, south facing rear garden, good accommodation, easy walk to the Downs with 'bus route very closeby.



BELTINGE, HERNE BAY £275,000

Modern detached 4 bedroom house, popular location on the border of the Village of Beltinge and 'bus route to town, ideal family accommodation.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £99,950

A one bedroom warden assisted first floor flat. Situated close to Victoria Park and Herne Bay town centre.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £450,000

Imposing detached double fronted Character property standing on a good size plot in an unmade road just off the main Canterbury Road on the southern side of town.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £119,500

Recently converted self-contained ground floor 1 bedroom flat located on the east side of town, 'bus stop at hand to town, local shops nearby.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £185,000

Three bedroom terraced house in central Herne Bay. Has been refurbished and offer a light airy family home. 200 yards from Herne Bay Primary School.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £185,000

Victorian terrace house located in a central position on the edge of the main High Street and very close to the sea front. Offering 3 bedrooms,



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £187,500

Vacant end of terrace Victorian house close to all amenities just off the High Street and sea front. Features gas central heating, double glazing.



BELTINGE, HERNE BAY £299,000

4 bedroom detached house in quiet location on the east side of town close to the Village of Beltinge. Close to local shops and 'bus route to town centre and Canterbury.



CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £150,000

Vacant ground floor Warden controlled flat located at the rear of the building in a central position close to town centre and sea front. Features electric heating and double glazing.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £279,995

Detached chalet style family residence, located on the west side of town convenient for railway station, easy access to sea front and other amenities.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £215,000

Vacant 2/3 bedroom spacious detached modern bungalow located on prominent corner plot in a popular residential area close to the Village of Herne.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £182,000

Detached well presented 2 bedroom bungalow close to all local amenities, bus routes, train station and shops. Features gas central heating, double glazing, sun room, small garage/workshop



BROOMFIELD, HERNE BAY £265,000

Situated in the corner of a cul-de-sac this four bedroom detached property offers spacious family accommodation. Herne Primary School is about a mile away.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £330,000

This well presented three bedroom bungalow is situated in the sought after village of Herne. Within 1/2 a mile of Herne Primary School and the village centre.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £225,000

Nicely presented 2 bedroom cottage style property set well back from the road, offered with no forward chain. Ideal for young couple or maybe retired person (s).



WEST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £239,950

Detached 4 bedroom house located on a corner plot on the west side of town, convenient for sea front. Features gas central heating and double glazing. Ideal for family.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £159,950

Detached 2 bedroom residence located in the historic Village of Herne approached by foot and limited car access for dropping off purposes only.



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £179,995

Modern semi-detached 3 bedroom house located on the east side of town close to 'bus route and walking distance of local shops.



WEST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £595,000

Detached marine residence located on a prominent corner plot west side of town boasting extensive sea views and general views over Herne Bay and surrounding areas



EAST CLIFF, HERNE BAY £235,000

Vacant 2 bedroom detached bungalow on wide corner plot located in an east central position within walking distance of local shops and 'bus route to town.



HERNE, HERNE BAY £124,995

Modern end of terrace 1 bedroom house located on the outskirts of Herne Bay, within walking distance of Herne Village. Offered with no forward chain.



WEST CENTRAL, HERNE BAY £195,000

Vacant detached double fronted 2 bedroom bungalow located in a popular residential area on the west side of town close to 'bus route, local shops and railway station.

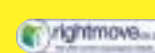


BELTINGE, HERNE BAY £120,000

Vacant two bedroom static home located in a popular residential area in the Village of Beltinge, local shops on site. Features gas central heating and double glazing.



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SEVENOAKS
Detached House for Refurbishment
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Mid Terrace House Improvement
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ELVINGTON
Former Club Premises with Potential
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Town Centre
Shop with
Upper Parts
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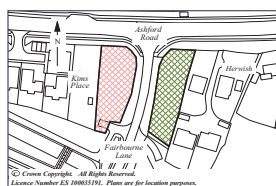
EWELL MINNIS
Quarter Acre Site with Potential
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 • Lounge, Dining Room, Utility Room, Cloakroom
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Anyone wishing to place an offer on this property should contact Ward & Partners, 32 St Margarets Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2TG Telephone Number 01227 766669 before exchange of contracts.



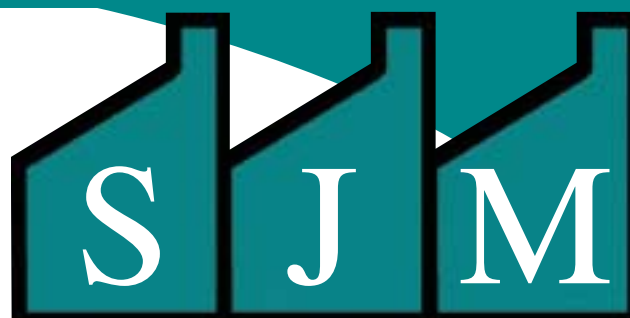
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WILLESBOROUGH

Two bed detached bungalow, Sitting room, fitted kitchen, rear garden, driveway, garage, gas heating double glazing, hot tub (available under separate negotiation) conservatory.

£229,995



KENNINGTON

Detached property, four bedrooms (master with en suite), cloakroom sitting room, dining room, kitchen with utility area, bathroom, double garage, gas heating, double glazing.

£365,000



CHARTFIELDS

Coach house style property, two bedrooms sitting / dining room, Fitted kitchen, bathroom, garage, no chain.

£144,995



CLOSE TO VICTORIA PARK

Attractive town house, kitchen, dining room four bedroom, sitting room en suite to master, driveway attached garage, rear garden, gas heating & double glazing.

£212,500



WILLESBOROUGH

Character cottage style property, near to schools and local shops, sitting/dining, room kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, no chain.

£153,995



KNIGHTS PARK

Stunning detached family house, four bedrooms (master en suite), study, sitting room, dining room kitchen, main bathroom, conservatory, garage, double glazed gas heating.

£365,000



KENNINGTON

Study, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, double glazed gas heating, courtyard with storage shed, good sized garden, no chain.

£145,000



WILLESBOROUGH

Commanding mews style townhouse, accommodation set over three floors, large kitchen / diner utility room, sitting room, gas heating, double glazing, no chain.

£219,995



WILLESBOROUGH

First floor flat two bedrooms, sitting room kitchen bathroom, gas heating double glazing, off road parking, rear garden.

£115,000



SINGLETON HILL

Detached property four bedrooms (two with en suite), main bathroom, cloakroom, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, double glazed, gas heating, close to amenities and schools.

£297,995



WALKING DISTANCE FROM TOWN

Impressively enlarged semi detached house, sitting room kitchen (built in appliances), dining room, conservatory, four bedrooms (master with en suite), driveway for 4/5 cars, garage.

£249,995



KENNINGTON

Detached house, three bedrooms (master en suite), open plan sitting room / dining room, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom, gas heating, double glazing, no chain.

£214,995



KENNINGTON

Detached property, four bedrooms, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, utility room cloakroom, bathroom, double garage, gas heating, double glazing, no chain.

£297,995



NEWTOWN

Well presented ground floor flat, double bedroom, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, double glazed, gas heating, no onward chain.

£89,995



KENNINGTON

End terrace house, three bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen/diner, bathroom, gas heating, double glazing, well placed for local shops and schools, 16'5" x 7'4" conservatory.

£139,995







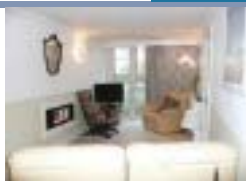





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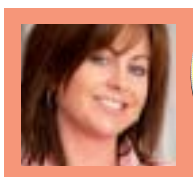
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WOMEN seeking men

ARE YOU HER MAN OF THE MATCH? Hi Fun-to-be-with, football-loving, blonde female, 25, 5'2", enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

THE ART OF THE MATTER 27-year-old female, 5'8", medium-curvy build, N/S, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, W/LTM tall, attractive male, 23-32, for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442644

STEP UP TO THE OCHE WITH ME! Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5'11", loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

SOUND GOOD? Social lady, 29, likes walks, swimming, vGSOH, like to meet a man, 30-55 for lots of fun. Brighton. Box 463844

FANCY A CUDDLE? Loving single mum, 29, shoulder length black hair, brown eyes, 5'3", slim and sexy, part-time carer, looking for reliable, loving male. Canterbury. Box 464326

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, W/LTM cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879931

COULD I BE THE ONE? Single mum, 33, divorced, looking to meet a male who enjoys walks, going out, time in and out and much more. Maidstone. Box 464835

HORSES FOR COURSES... Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, facile, W/LTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

SHREK'S APPEAL! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5'8", short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5'3", shoulder length curly hair, I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453039

GROW OLD WITH ME Single mum, 37yrs old, slim build, honest, kind and caring. I'm looking for LTR, love and romance with nice guy in Maidstone area. Box 860164

LOVE TO LOVE YOU Lovely female, 36, 5'4", medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 86102

PUT A SMILE ON MY FACE Mum of three, 38, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out etc and W/LTM genuine, caring, loving male. Chatham. Box 466612

NEW TO THIS Attractive single mum of 2, 43yrs old, 5'11", medium build, GSOH, likes cooking, spending time with family & animals. W/LTM fun loving, kind, genuine man. Kent. Box 855182

FIT THE BILL? Fit and healthy woman, average build. I'm 44, young looking and love animals. I would love to meet a sincere fella to spend time with. Maidstone. Box 466419

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5'10", likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with GSOH for friendship/relationship. Box 450348

SWEET AS HONEY Petite, slim, honey-blond lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-riding. Looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458465

FROM ME TO YOU Lonely and bored single professional Asian lady, 40, seeks genuine single solvent professional white male, 40-50, for companionship and more. Tunbridge Wells. Box 464925

FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but confident once-known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106

HAPPINESS, THE GREATEST GIFT... Shy female, 40, 5'8", blue eyes, short blonde hair, medium build, loves going out, wine and dining, holidays; seeking likewise gentleman to be happy with. Box 446763

I SHOULD BE SO LUCKY Hello, I'm Karen, 42, dark brown hair, medium build, GSOH, looking for a man with no issues and GSOH who can enjoy life with me. Box 452204

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ANOTHER CHAPTER Hard-working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037

DOES THIS SOUND LIKE YOU? Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5'8", dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving gent, 5'10", 46128

BE MY FRIEND AND PARTNER Hi there, I'm female, 43, 5'6", medium build, long dark hair/green eyes. I enjoy cinema, eating out etc and W/LTM genuine, caring, loving male. Chatham. Box 466612

NEW TO THIS Attractive single mum of 2, 43yrs old, 5'11", medium build, GSOH, likes cooking, spending time with family & animals. W/LTM fun loving, kind, genuine man. Kent. Box 855182

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FREE AD placement, call: 0808 156 5339 (Calls are free; mobile rates may vary; check with your provider)

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HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459128

MUST MAKE ME LAUGH!! Young mid 40s female, looking to meet a genuine single male for friendship and eventual long term relationship. Rochester. Box 855449

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY Bubbly female, 44, brunette, N/S, medium-large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445855

POSSIBLE LTR African lady, full figured and radiant! I'm a Christian, 46, 5'8", attractive, caring and intelligent and enjoy jazz, travel, theatre. W/LTM decent, white male, Gillingham. Box 466617

NOTHING VENTURED... Humble lady, 47, GSOH, down to earth, non-smoker, enjoys life, likes meals and days out, seeks a life-loving guy to enjoy a meal with. Rochester. Box 466286

TAKE IT EASY Maidstone female, 47, looking for someone just for initial company and friendship. Many interests including gardening, cooking and shopping. Box 464973

ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULL Young-looking 46yr old female, 5'14", slim, blonde, non-smoker, affectionate, loyal, caring, seeking a male, 40-45, up to 5'10", to share life with. Ashford/Maidstone area please. Box 461538

COME ON OVER Fun-loving gal, 47, dark hair/eyes, attractive, looking for a similar male to enjoy nights out and good conversation. Gillingham. Box 854480

YOUNG AT HEART Young 46, attractive, fun-loving female, looking for fit, handsome, intelligent, full of fun, sexy, worldly man to share everything that life has to offer. Box 884113

NORMAL GAL Female, 47, looking for genuine man, laughter, sincerity, smart, kind, tall honest man, age under 49 and over 30 a must. Maidstone. Box 866380

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

HELP ME OPEN UP Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks, W/LTM male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444586

ETERNALLY YOURS Easygoing woman, likes most things in life: country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5'2", medium build. W/LTM genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445635

A REAL DIAMOND African lady, 47, honest, loving and caring, enjoy most things in life, looking for a male, 50+, for a LTR. Canterbury Box 460999

MAKE IT ENJOYABLE Pretty, young-looking, slender woman, 49, dark-haired seeks reliable gentleman, 25-49 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 460686

DREAM LOVER Petite blonde, young 49, loving, caring, enjoy music, walking, theatre dining in/out, looking for friendship and more with a genuine, caring and honest man. Rochester. Box 854822

ANY TAKERS? Divorced single mum, 49, 5'14", animal lover, happy go lucky, likes quiet drinks and cinema, looking for a man for friendship, maybe a LTR. Ashford. Box 464557

BY MY SIDE Curvy woman, 49, 5'10", I enjoy being by the sea, music, walks, meals out, cinema, crosswords and reading. Seeking kind, caring man in the Maidstone area. Box 466608

ARE YOU LOVING AND CARING? Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5'8", medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434089

FAMILY LIFE Warm hearted lady, 51, look younger! I'm 5'8", slim build, with blonde hair, divorced (grown up children). W/LTM nice man, 40s/50s in the Aylesford area. Box 461834

HERE AND NOW Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

GETTING TO KNOW YOU Slim blonde, 51, 5'3", very caring, active, loves diy and gardening, W/LTM a man with similar interests to get to know better. Sheerness. Box 467112

JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 48, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, W/LTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

CARING & PROFESSIONAL Female 49, 5'14", long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings. Box 471100

LOVELY BUBBLY Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with GSOH to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311

MEANT TO BE? Very honest, reliable and trustworthy person, 52, 5'6", blonde with blue eyes, loves cinema, meals out and nights out, seeking sociable male with same interests. Ashford. Box 466150

IT COULD BE US Happy-go-lucky lady, 53, 5'3", slim, blonde-brown hair, blue eyes looking for a tall, honest guy, for love and laughter and happy times. South Kent. Box 464601

A HIGHER LOVE Looking for that special person, I'm a genuine lady, 54 but don't feel it! I'd like to meet someone to love and care for. Canterbury. Box 857551

YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL... Young East-Asian, hard-working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 863410

DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS? Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863

LIFE IS GOOD! Slim, attractive lady, 65, enjoy outdoors pursuits, dog walking, socialising and music, lots of time and to give to the right person. Maidstone. Box 466636

SMART MOVE Spontaneous, friendly, lively female, 55, likes cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeks similar person for friendship leading to hopefully more. Box 430854

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS! Smart petite lady, 56, 5'14", tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad, seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795

DREAMS OF YOU Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 448566

MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi my name's Christine, 59, 5'9", slim build, wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, playing darts, looking for slim build male, for friendship, possible more. Box 419914

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

LOTS OF HUGS Positive woman, 60, independent but sociable, I'm 5'14", red hair/green eyes, slim build. Hythe. I enjoy art and walks, seeking similar, intelligent man, lively, reliable. Box 464002

SAY YES! Brighton lass, 61, 5'2", blonde, blue eyes, separated, likes going for drinks and socialising, 60s music and going to the theatre. Looking for a like-minded gent. Box 468107

SIMPLE PLEASURES Hi there, I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/green eyes, medium build. I love dancing, walking by the sea and W/LTM like minded gent. Box 459467

THE GOOD THINGS IN LIFE 59yr old young-at-heart, loving woman, I am hoping to meet a kindred spirit who loves animals, going for walks and the romantic side of life. Box 900143

BRIGHTENING UP Cuddly lady, 61, 5'8", blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. W/LTM tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214

BE YOURSELF Outgoing lady, 61, 5'11", blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. W/LTM tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214

MAKING LOVE Single 39yr old male, good looking, 5'8", medium build, dark hair/blue eyes. I enjoy bowling, country pubs, walks etc. W/LTM like minded lady. Sittingbourne area. Box 467062

THE GOOD LIFE Young looking male, 39, quiet guy, looking for a LTR, want to relax and enjoy life together, with the right woman. Box 858113

BURSTING WITH LOVE Shy 39 year old man, caring with big heart, looking for that someone to share my life with, into sport, films and having fun. Margate. Box 853647

MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN Seeking genuine lady, I'm a 38yr old male, 5'8", dark hair/blue eyes. I work hard and play hard, would like to enjoy spare time with partner. Box 449649

NEW IN TOWN Good-looking male, 39, fair hair, blue eyes, nice build and height, social, likes holidays, dining out, fit, seeking a woman ready to go out with. Rochester. Box 460825

FISHING & CAMPING! Fun-loving male, 40, not of many words, likes sports, music, reading and films, seeks company and companion. Sheerness. Box 465333

FANCY THAT Outgoing female, 42, 5'10", above average build, looking for fun and possibly more in time if you're the right lady. Maidstone. Box 859627

TO ENJOY LIFE Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5'8", brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, W/LTM someone trustworthy and caring to settle down with. Box 448377

ETERNAL FLAME Nick, 41, 6'11", slim, dark hair/blue eyes, likes cinema, country pubs and socialising with friends, looking for a kind, caring and considerate female, 35-45. Box 450339

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Margate. Box 443750

JUST SMILE! Outgoing guy, fun to be with, I'm 42, a non-drinker and would like to meet a similar lady in the Hythe area. Box 466462

BIG ATTRACTIVE GUY Gillingham male, 43, 6'12", blue eyes, dark hair, confident, relaxed, divorced, two grown-up kids, a chef, works hard, loves soul music, seeks soulmate. Box 465158

REPLY to an ad, call: 0905 211 0651 (Calls cost £1.20/min; contact your service provider for details)

REPLY by Text

You can choose to text the member's 6-digit box number followed by a space, then your message (max of 160 characters) and send to **82250** e.g. 654321 Hi my name is... Standard network rates apply to send messages. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message.



MEN seeking women

FRIENDLY IN FOLKESTONE Easygoing, genuine fun loving male, 27, dark hair, medium build, I love clubbing, cinema and travelling. Would love to hear from you. Kent. Box 859552

QUESS WHO? Male, 30, 5'10", in Ashford and looking for the right lady, 30-40. I enjoy all the usual things in life: socialising, nights in/out, mountain biking. Box 866418

FOR LOVE Hard-working male, 29, 5'10", dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, plays harder! Likes going/eating out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752

BOTTLE OF WINE Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5'8", medium build, brown hair. I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165

TAKE MY HAND 36 year old single father, down to earth, works full time, enjoys family time, outdoor activities, cinema, meals out, seeks a similar lady. Gillingham. Box 854242

ROMANCE AHEAD Fun, romantic, energetic man, 37yrs old, 5'6", slim build, brown hair/eyes. I enjoy cooking, gardening, summer walks and home life. Maidstone area. Box 467172

SPONTANEOUS Young 39yr old male, good looking, 5'8", medium build, dark hair/blue eyes. I enjoy bowling, country pubs, walks etc. W/LTM like minded lady. Sittingbourne area. Box 467062

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JUST SMILE! Outgoing guy, fun to be with, I'm 42, a non-drinker and would like to meet a similar lady in the Hythe area. Box 466462

BROWSE and listen line: 0906 753 3093 (Calls cost 75p/min; contact your service provider for details)

HELP required with service? 0871 220 9205

Live assistance, 2pm-5.30pm, Mon to Fri | Email: louise@gwave.co.uk (Calls cost 10p/min; contact your service provider for details)



FOR FUN & ROMANCE Canterbury male, 48, white, 6'13", medium-large, likes cycling, walking to keep fit and boasts! W/LTM slim black lady for possible LTR. Box 465219

GET BACK TO ME Good looking divorced man, 48, 6'11", likes keeping in shape, loves music, gigs; seeking slim lady, 30-40, relaxed, laid back, for good relationship. Hythe. Box 460338

POSITIVE ATTITUDE Good looking male, 49, 5'11", I have a son of 13 who is great. I just want to find beautiful loving lady to share life with. Box 852357

LOVE AND TRUST Honest, caring man, 50, 5'11", likes cinema, countryside, beach walks, meals out/in, restaurants, looking for honest, caring, lady 45-55, Medway area. Box 852889

THE ROMANTIC KIND Easy-going professional 50yr old man, looking for a woman for friendship, maybe more. I enjoy most things in life, especially holidays abroad and romantic dinners. Box 452860

SENSE OF HUMOUR A MUST Very young looking male, 52, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5'7", looking for a nice young lady over 30 for romance and good times together. Box 860085

GOOD COMPANIONSHIP Young 54yr old man, separated, 5'10", slim/medium build, pretty fit. I like music, walking, countryside, pubs, football, horses. Ashford area. Box 467015

HAND IN HAND Easygoing man, 57, would like to meet someone to share good and bad times, finding that special person to be with soul mates. Box 861243

DANCING THROUGH LIFE Active and easy-going male, mid 50s, always tries to see the funny side of life, looking for a like-minded independent female. Box 464771

LIKE IT MOST BY THE COAST! 53yr old male, 6'11", brown hair, blue eyes, own company enjoys coast, countryside, seeks female, 40-60, for true love. Box 782206

COME FLY AWAY Divorced, active male, 5'10", brown eyes, likes the beach, walking, pubs, restaurants, holidays; seeking a similar lady that likes travel for friendship first. Ramsgate. Box 466844

A NEW CHAPTER Widower, 60, 5'10", medium build, N/S, drinks occasionally, looking for a lady, 5'4"-5'6", for a LTR, just want someone to enjoy life with. Rochester. Box 462496

FANCY A DVD? Caring gentle guy, 45, slim, 5'8", short hair, looking for guys in the Medway area for fun foremost and then whatever else follows. Rochester. Box 459815

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Senior & General Appointments 49-52



ETHELBERT CHILDRENS SERVICES

"Working and Caring for Children since 1972"

Due to continuing development with our Education Department the following positions have become vacant:

A rare and exciting opportunity to join our Education Department

OUTREACH TEACHER

This exciting NEW post is for a successful candidate to develop the role and meet the Educational needs of our students. For a teacher to liaise between home and school, providing our young people/children with Education whilst residing within our Residential Homes.

A varied, interesting role to join our Education Department achieving to meet all the Educational requirements for our children.

BESD understanding and experience preferable, salary depending on experience, post to commence Sept 2010 or sooner if applicable, car driver essential.

MATHS TEACHER

The above post to deliver Mathematics throughout the Department, to GCSE standard within our Schools, for pupils in Key Stages 2 – 4, has become available. BESD experience preferable, salary depending on experience, post to commence Sept 2010.

PRIMARY TEACHER

The above post, to take responsibility for the organisation and development of our small Primary Department of mixed age and mixed ability class, for pupils in Key Stages 2 – 3, has become available. BESD experience preferable salary depending on experience, post to commence Sept 2010.

Please contact the Personnel Department for an application form:
Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ,
01843 823762

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mcch is a charity committed to designing and delivering services to adults with learning disabilities and mental health needs. It's people like you who empower each individual by giving them more independence and continue to be part of society.

Supported Living Support Worker

Ref: 687/E

£16,040-£16,896 pro rata 1x FT 1 x PT 22 hrs Heme Bay & Canterbury

We are looking for 2 enthusiastic, self motivated people to join our supported living team working with people who have a learning disability or mental ill health. Applicants must be flexible, reliable and able to promote and support individual's health, wellbeing and independence. Experience in Learning Disabilities or Mental Health would be advantageous. If you are looking for a job that can be both challenging, and rewarding apply now.

How to apply....

Closing date 26th March 2010. For further information or to apply online visit www.mcch.co.uk or email us for an application form at jobs@mcch.co.uk alternatively call our recruitment line on 0845 600 1552. Please quote ref. We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All appointments are subject to a Criminal Records Disclosure.



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BASED ASHFORD

KCA provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. You will be a member of the Psychological Therapy Providers (PTP) team working across our stepped care services in Ashford. You will undertake a clinical caseload and line manage a designated number of staff, mentor new team members and assist in the provision of good, evidence based practice. The centre offers services between 8am and 8pm on week days, and on Saturday mornings. Therefore working hours will need to be flexible.

You must be BACP, BABCP or UKCP accredited, highly experienced as a therapist with a Diploma in Counselling and trained to work in an area recognised by the NICE guidelines (couple counselling, IPT, CBT or psychodynamic models). You will also have good management skills, an enthusiastic approach to evidence based practice and a commitment to service development.

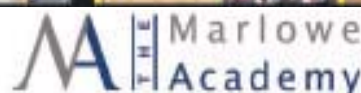
For more information please contact Susan Wyles, Service Manager on 07725 433267.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number: 645.

Closing date: 26 March 2010. • Interview date: 9 April 2010 in Ashford.

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Assistant Team Leader - Primary / Secondary Transition

This is a new post for the 2010/11 academic year, and is being offered on a two year fixed contract in the first instance.
Salary will be c.£40k.

Any applicant needs to be:

- a very good teacher;
- an outstanding communicator with 9-12 year olds and their parents;
- and experienced in senior management in an East Kent primary school.

Key tasks associated with this role are:

- further developing our links with local primary schools;
- overseeing transition arrangements for Year 6 into 7, developing strategies to minimise any dip in performance;
- taking on a 50% fte Year 7 teaching commitment;
- leading Year 7's pastoral and academic progress;
- and advising the Performance Leader and Principal on how best to prepare us to be ready to work with work colleagues working in the primary phase of an All Age Academy

The successful candidate will have recent and relevant experience of developing links between the primary and secondary phases. They will be at a stage in their career where they are seeking a different sort of opportunity to enhance their own professional development. They will be 100% committed to working with and supporting disadvantaged communities.

Application is by application form and CV with a supporting two sided letter indicating what attracts you to the post and how you meet the qualities listed above and best placed to take on this role. Please visit our website www.marloweacademy.co.uk to download application form and further information.

The deadline for applications is Friday 26th March.

Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Spooner, HR Manager, on direct telephone number 01843 598550 or email clare.smithkent@hays.com to apply

The Marlowe Academy is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and successful applicants will have to undertake Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB.



LANDSCAPE OPERATIVE

Serco Local Government, Canterbury

A vacancy has arisen for an experienced Landscape Operative.

- Fixed term contract
- A full driving licence is essential
- 39 Hours per week
- 20 Days annual leave

Telephone 01227 819419 for an application form.

Closing date for all completed applications will be: 26th March 2010

All applicants are welcome to apply regardless of age, disability, gender, marital status, race, nationality or ethnic origin, religion, or sexual orientation.



GRASS CUTTER

Serco Local Government, Canterbury

A vacancy has arisen for an experienced Grass Cutter.

- Fixed term contract
- A full driving licence is essential
- 39 Hours per week
- 20 Days annual leave

Telephone 01227 819419 for an application form.

Closing date for all completed applications will be: 26th March 2010

All applicants are welcome to apply regardless of age, disability, gender, marital status, race, nationality or ethnic origin, religion, or sexual orientation.



PLAY GROUND INSPECTOR

Serco Local Government, Canterbury

A vacancy has arisen for an Experienced Play Ground Inspector.

- CRB check is required
- ROSPA qualification together with a full driving licence is essential
- 39 Hours per week
- 20 Days annual leave rising to 25 days after 5 years continuous service

Telephone 01227 819419 for an application form.

Closing date for all completed applications will be: 26th March 2010

All applicants are welcome to apply regardless of age, disability, gender, marital status, race, nationality or ethnic origin, religion, or sexual orientation.

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Abbey Court School, a 'special' school and a 'special' place to work.

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Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 4-19 with severe learning difficulties. Working hours are 32.5 p/w, term time only. Previous experience and/or NNEB (or equivalent) qualifications preferred. Comprehensive training and induction will be provided.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post. This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

Closing date: 19.3.10

For an application pack, please write to/telephone

(stating the role for which you are applying):
Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 3SP
(01634 338236)

Please note CV's will not be accepted



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The person we are seeking will be an energetic and enthusiastic individual with good interpersonal skills, strong relationship-building capability and have excellent verbal and written communication ability. They will need to demonstrate a proven sales track record, ideally from within media together with knowledge of the Kent market place.

KOS Media offers a good basic salary, alongside performance and target-related bonus, plus five weeks annual holiday.

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christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk



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Nacro Services in Kent and Medway offers vocational and skills training to young people aged 14-19 years/adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate raise self-esteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment.

As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people.

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We hold the contract to deliver the 50/50 element of the Key Stage 4 Engagement Programme and work in partnership with schools and the Local Education Authority to re-engage Key Stage 4 Learners. You will be experienced in using imaginative new techniques to encourage young people to take up vocational and work related opportunities offered to them through the programme. Experience of working with challenging behaviour would be an advantage.

KEY SKILLS TRAINER (PART TIME 16HRS) (MATERNITY COVER)

£17,834p.a (pro-rata)

This Role is to provide high quality Key Skills for Life for young people aged 16-19. You must have good administrative skills and record keeping and an ability to produce reports and monitoring of all information. Good time management is a must as well as to be able to communicate effectively at all levels both verbally and in writing. You would be required to work as part of a team and under your own initiative.

Experience of challenging behaviour would be an advantage.

The above positions are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Closing date for both vacancies is 23rd March 2010.

VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for people who like to volunteer to support the learners in our Centres in various roles e.g. mentoring, support for Skills for Life, in particular reception type duties at our Pathways Centre. Travel and lunch expenses are paid.

Contact colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call Colin Farrow on 01634 818305 for an application pack.

Office Assistant

£15,039 – £16,830 PRO RATA • 15 HOURS PER WEEK
(THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS) • BASED MAIDSTONE

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If you would like further information on this post please call Christine Gordon, Administration Lead on 01795 590795 ex.2 or Michelle Snook West Kent and Medway Prescribing Lead on 01622 690944.

Closing date: 15 March 2010 at 5pm. • Interview date: 29 March 2010.

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For an informal discussion please contact Rishi Sharma on 01634 383515

Closing date: Friday 19 March 2010

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) Advisor Ref: P0262
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Medway
 We are looking for an outstanding individual to deliver and develop Careers Education Information, Advice and Guidance within the College. The successful candidate will have excellent communication skills, with the ability to provide accurate advice to learners with a diverse range of abilities and backgrounds. A qualification at Level 4 or above is essential such as The Qualification in Careers Guidance.

Lecturer in Travel and Tourism Ref: M0187
Salary: £26,283 - £28,963 per annum
Maternity Cover
Medway
 An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to deliver and participate in the development of the Travel and Tourism programmes. Responsibilities will include establishing and developing travel and tourism industry contacts to enhance the students learning experience. A recognised Travel and Tourism qualification is essential. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357
Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
Medway
 We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Installation programmes. The ideal candidates must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The candidate must have; An Advanced Craft Certificate, including Mandatory Awards in Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

Closing date: Friday 26 March 2010

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Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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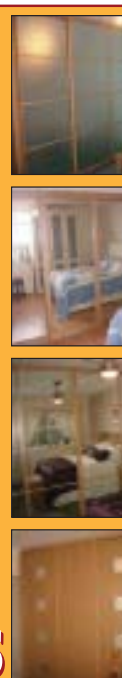
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Picture NICK DUNGAN



ON SONG: Kwan Browne scored three penalty corners

Browne flies in and hits hat-trick in six-goal rout

KWAN Browne smashed a hat-trick for Canterbury as they hit Kent rivals Sevenoaks for six to maintain their two-point lead at the top of the Men's Conference East.

Title rivals Old Loughtonians beat Harleston Magpies 3-2 to keep up the pressure on Browne's side, but with two games of the season to go, the ball is very much in Canterbury's court from here on in.

On Sunday, the city club took an early lead at Holly Bush Lane to stamp their authority on the game.

In the ninth minute Browne, who had flown in from India just before the game,

HOCKEY

Sevenoaks men's 1st XI 0 Canterbury men's 1st XI 6

converted a penalty corner to give the visitors the lead.

The club captain made it two on 26 minutes, again converting a penalty corner, while Ross Gilham-Jones ensured Sevenoaks would have a mountain to climb in the second-half if they were to get anything from the game, with two goals in the space of just two minutes.

The points were effectively Canterbury's when Browne scored the fifth to complete his hat-trick of penalty corners on 40 minutes, while Matthew Bunyan scored from open play shortly after the hour mark to complete the rout.

Canterbury play hosts to Southgate on Saturday.

The club's ladies 1st XI lost 4-1 to Slough at Polo Farm at the weekend, Canterbury's consolation goal coming from Kathleen Taylor on the hour mark. They are next back in action on Sunday, when they travel to play the University of Birmingham.

RUGBY

Sykes takes centre stage in city's win

Canterbury 29 Westcombe Park 18

CANTERBURY chalked up the double over Kent rivals Westcombe Park at Merton Lane, to put them sixth in National 2 South.

The visitor's combative pack edged the first 20 minutes and it brought them a driving, close quarter try from Doug Abbott.

Park opted for a kicking game, but it was not accurate enough to put Canterbury under sustained pressure.

Pat Sykes, relishing his role at outside centre, came up with a reply in the 24th minute, smashing a hole in the midfield and floating a pass which gave Carlton Littlechild an equalising try.

A penalty goal from Lee Audis restored Combe's lead and as the half drew to a close, they made the most of a turnover to send winger Graham Purdy on a 50-metre run to the line, which Audis converted.

Time was short, but the city club responded positively as they piled back into attack. Showing commendable patience they probed the defence cleverly before Andy Pratt put Mike Melford (pictured) over for the try which kept them comfortably in touch.

Three minutes after the break Canterbury grabbed an advantage they never surrendered, thanks largely to a piece of good fortune.

Tom Best attempted a left-foot drop goal, but sliced his kick wide to the left where Sykes was lurking and got a hand on the ball for his side's third try.

Gert De Kock converted and the full-back was the catalyst for the next Canterbury score which stretched the lead to seven and won Canterbury a bonus point. Fielding a loose kick he put Melford into space and the winger scorched away from the defenders before sending Sykes over unopposed.

It took Audis's second penalty goal to keep Combe hopeful, but in the closing moments Canterbury settled the issue with a Best try five minutes from time.

It left De Kock with a simple conversion to end the scoring and give Canterbury the points.



Picture IGOR KUPCO

Picture ADY KERRY



RESPONSE: Kent chairman George Kennedy hit back at "flack" he took regarding Kent's financial predicament, saying he has loaned the club hundreds of thousands of pounds

Kent bosses set to unveil new chief at club's AGM

KENT members will be the first to meet the club's new chief executive when he is unveiled at the county's Annual General Meeting on March 29.

It's understood the club's committee has decided on the man they want to lead Kent cricket forward and are hopeful their preferred candidate will accept the post in time for the meeting at the end of the month.

County chairman, George Kennedy, wouldn't be drawn on who that man is, although it is known acting chief executive Jamie Clifford was one of those interviewed.

The chairman responded to "flack" he took last week in the wake of the club's dire financial results, by revealing he has loaned the county "several hundred thousand pounds."

The Scot was so upset with comments made

CRICKET

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

about the financial results to the year October 31, 2009, and his role as chairman, that he decided to spill the beans about a loan he gave to the club some weeks ago.

The county club announced a deficit of £802,452, which included £190,000 for the two summer pop concerts last year.

Kennedy, obviously aware of the financial position the club was in, decided to use his own money by way of a loan to help Kent through. He wouldn't disclose how much that was, but explained he wanted to do his bit for the good of Kent cricket.

"I put some money into the club because mainly I went to the banks and although they

were very helpful, they are very expensive. With the interest rates and other fees coming into it, I thought if we could avoid that then we'll do it, so I decided to put some of my own money in.

"It's an act of good faith and I hope people will realise that I am doing my best to support the club in every possible way."

The 69-year-old was hopeful of keeping the loan quiet, but felt the reaction from the club's members and supporters this week after the results were made public, forced his hand.

He said: "We decided to keep it quiet and it was done several weeks ago, but I got so much flack from people saying 'he doesn't care, he doesn't do this he doesn't do that' so I thought it was time people realised that I do care and I am trying to do something about it."

"I keep telling people it's a members' club and members have to help. I'm a member and that's my gesture."

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Omens not good as Town face relegation dogfight

FOOTBALL

BY STEVE TERVET

Eastbourne Town 3

Francis 54, 83, Simmons 76

Whitstable Town 1

Dolton 87

THERE were no complaints from Whitstable Town manager Mark Munday after he saw his side drop back into the Ryman South relegation zone with defeat at Eastbourne.

The East Sussex side are propping up the table, but Munday admitted the Oystermen deserved nothing from the game after turning in a lifeless performance.

The first-half of a scrappy contest ended goalless, but the hosts went ahead nine minutes into the second-half when Charlie Francis headed beyond Kevin Fewell.

Things got worse for Whitstable in the 76th minute when Eastbourne skipper Danny Simmons unleashed a terrific volley to double the lead and any hopes of a dramatic comeback were snuffed out seven minutes from time.

Francis bagged his second of the afternoon to complete a miserable afternoon for Whitstable, for who Dan Dolton's late free-kick failed to provide any consolation.



Picture PER LALENC

SCANT REWARD: Dan Dolton scored Town's only goal

The defeat, coupled with Ashford's 4-1 win over fellow strugglers Walton Casuals, saw Whitstable fall behind their rivals in the bid for survival and back into the relegation zone.

Munday knows there can be no repeat of the lethargy he witnessed on Saturday.

He said: "We got what we deserved, which was nothing. It was a scrappy affair, neither side created any good chances."

Whitstable Town starting XI



Subs used: Hitchings (Gooding 65), Stubbs (Cornhill 65)

FOOTBALL



Picture KEN KIRKOP

BEATEN: Herne Bay (right) lost first game in nine outings

Bay's title hopes dented by Town

Herne Bay 0 Sevenoaks Town 2

WHAT looked to be a tricky home fixture against a much-improved Sevenoaks Town proved to be just that as Herne Bay lost their first league game in nine outings.

With leaders Faversham Town winning at Lordswood on the same day, defeat for Bay means they will be relying on Town slipping up twice before the end of the season if they are to pip them to the title.

Having beaten Faversham in the first leg of the Premier Division Cup 3-1 last Tuesday (the second leg was due to be played last night), Saturday was always going to be a tough game against a side that have quietly moved up to third in the division.

Bay manager Simon Halsey was deprived of Luke Harvey, Stuart King, Darren Marsden, David Crofts, Louis Valencia and Jamie Maxted who were all either injured or suspended, which represented a chance for the other squad players to stake their claim for a place in the side.

It wasn't to be though, as Bay put in their worst performance of the season and dropped 13 points behind Faversham at the top.

The visitors took the lead on 21 minutes when Town striker Joe Creasy let fly with a thunderbolt from 35 yards out that flew past the despairing dive of Dan Eason.

Bay had the perfect opportunity to draw level when Nathan Eastwood collected a Dan Lawrence ball before being tripped in the area and a penalty was awarded.

Up stepped Simon Moore but his spot kick sailed high and wide over the bar.

Bay paid for their miss seconds before half-time when the visitors broke away from deep in their own half. Tony Atkins left Neil Perkins for dead and then rounded Steve Hanson before placing a low drive under Eason's body to double their lead.

In the second-half Bay lost their shape as they went in search of the goal that would get them back into the game, but it never came as they slipped to defeat.

For a report and reaction from last night's cup game at Faversham, visit www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.

LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Worthing	32	20	3	9	+26	63
2 Folkestone Invicta (10)	31	22	6	3	+24	62
3 Croydon Athletic	29	18	6	5	+34	60
4 Fleet Town	31	17	4	40	+20	55
5 Walton & Hersham	32	16	6	10	+10	54
6 Godalming Town (3)	29	17	3	9	+15	51
7 Sittingbourne	29	15	5	9	+22	50
8 Burgess Hill Town	31	13	9	9	+7	48
9 Horsham YMCA	35	11	13	11	+3	46
10 Leatherhead	29	13	5	11	+12	44
11 Metropolitan Police	31	11	9	11	+8	42
12 Clacton Town	32	13	3	16	+12	42
13 Whyteleafe	32	12	5	15	+3	41
14 Ramsgate	32	10	11	11	-4	41
15 Merstham	31	10	9	12	-10	39
16 Dulwich Hamlet	31	9	10	12	-4	37
17 Corinthian-Casuals	32	11	3	18	-16	36
18 Chipstead	32	8	6	18	-17	30
19 Walton Casuals	32	6	8	19	-22	26
20 Ashford Town	29	6	8	15	-29	26
21 Whitstable Town	30	8	2	20	-39	26
22 Eastbourne Town	33	5	10	18	-31	25

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Faversham Town	22	18	2	2	41	56
2 Herne Bay	19	14	1	4	20	43
3 Sevenoaks Town	20	11	4	5	12	37
4 Beckenham Town	21	10	5	6	17	35
5 Hythe Town	20	9	6	5	24	33
6 Greenwich Borough	21	9	6	6	9	33
7 Erith & Belvedere	22	9	6	7	-2	33
8 Erith Town	20	9	5	6	9	32
9 Deal Town	19	8	5	6	1	29
10 Tunbridge Wells	21	6	7	8	-3	25
11 Sporting Bengal Utd26	7	4	15	40	-36	25
12 Holmesdale	20	6	3	11	-4	21
13 Norton Sports	19	5	5	9	-8	20
14 Fisher	21	4	4	13	-24	16
15 Corinthian	22	4	3	15	-30	15
16 Lordswood	21	1	8	12	-26	11

KENT COUNTY LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Stansfeld O&B Club	22	15	3	4	24	48
2 Sutton Athletic	21	14	3	4	28	45
3 Hollands & Blair	19	13	4	2	22	43
4 Canterbury City	20	12	1	7	18	37
5 Phoenix Sports	17	11	4	2	18	37
6 Rushall	22	10	3	9	5	33
7 Fleet Leisure	18	8	4	29	1	28
8 Bearsted	18	7	5	6	0	26
9 Bly Spartans	17	8	1	8	-4	25
10 Orpington	23	6	4	13	-11	22
11 Snodland	22	6	4	12	-16	22
12 Tonbridge Invicta	22	6	4	12	-17	22
13 Lewisham Borough	17	6	3	12	-12	21
14 Cray Valley (PM)	17	6	2	9	6	20
15 Coney Hall	23	5	1	17	-31	16
16 Milton & Fulston Utd	20	4	2	14	-31	14

FIXTURES (Saturday): (Saturday) Ryman Division One South: Whitstable Town v Horsham YMCA; Kent League Premier Division: Corinthian v Herne Bay; Kent County League Premier Division: Fleet Leisure v Canterbury City

City fight back from goal down to smash Snodland

FOOTBALL

Canterbury City 4 Snodland 1

CANTERBURY City continued their recent resurgence with a comfortable win at home to Snodland on Saturday.

City's run of three successive wins took them into fourth place in the Kent County League Premier Division and the weekend's victory made up for losing to Snodland 5-3 earlier in the season.

Snodland defended well throughout the first-half and took the lead with a disputed penalty after only eight minutes.

City again began by relying on Royston Gough as the lone striker, which tended to encourage the long ball game, but the visitors regularly snuffed it out.

Goalkeeper Paul Hyde kept City in the game with a string of fine saves, while Gough and Liam Whiting were unable to take advantage of what goal-scoring chances they were offered.

The second-half was a different story, with City almost permanently on the attack. On the hour Joe Smith equalised after the Snodland goalkeeper parried a previous shot.

Dave Read came off the bench for his first appearance after injury and immediately added power and strength. Gough flicked in a clever goal from Scott Lawford's corner, then Read completed a superb move begun by Sam Baker and later added the fourth from close range.

Dave Fairclough takes his side to Fleet



Picture DAVID MULLANEY

EASY DOES IT: Canterbury (right) overcame an early Snodland goal to run out comfortable winners

Leisure on Saturday, before City play their final league game of the season on March 27 when they are the visitors to Sutton Athletic.

Canterbury will be hoping for maximum points to ensure they stand a chance of finishing in the division's top four.

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